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A FISHERMAN PUBLICATION

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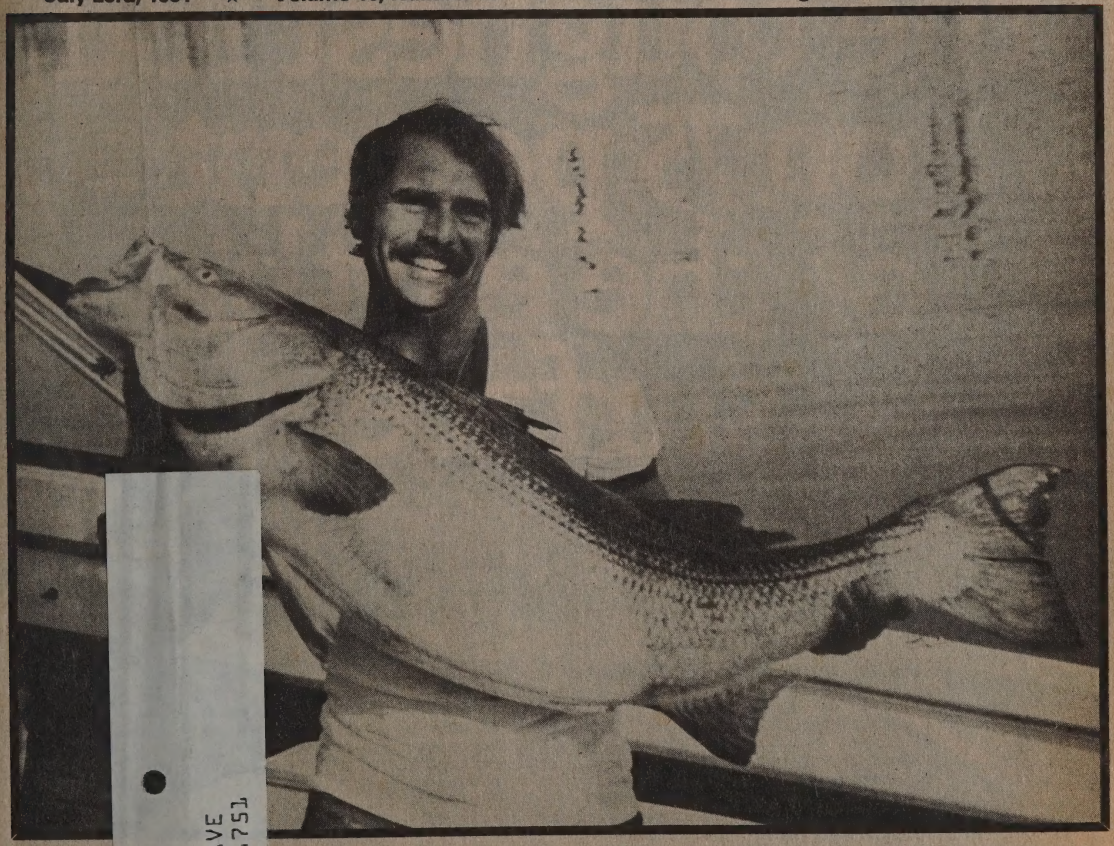
July 23rd, 1981 ★ Volume 16, Number 29 ★ 16th Year of Publishing ★ SEVENTY-CENTS



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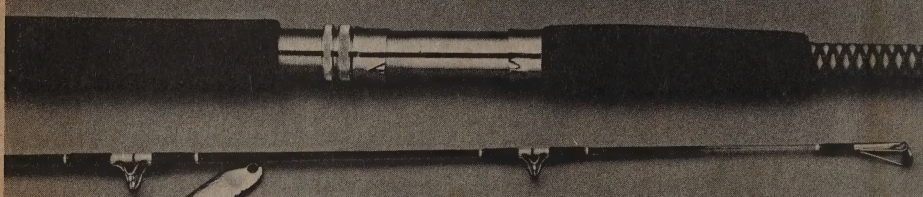

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The Long Island FISHERMAN

The Largest Weekly Sportfishing Magazine in the United States!

Volume 16, Number 29 July 23rd, 1981

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Bob Rochetta of East Setauket hefts the potential all-tackle record striper he took during the week hours of Friday, July 17. See page 28 for details of this magnificent catch. Photo by Carl Darenberg, Jr. of Montauk Marine Basin.

COMING NEXT WEEK: **CANYON OF AWE**

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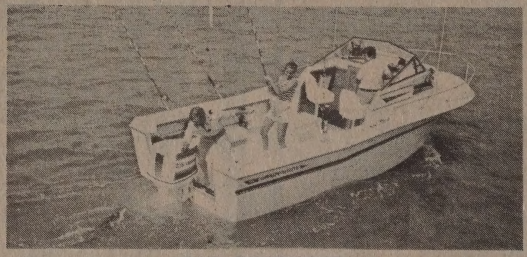

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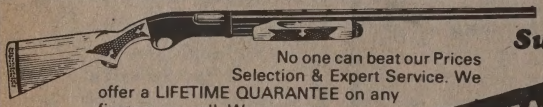

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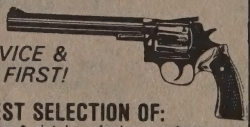

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CHARTER BOAT CAPTAINS TAKE NOTE

Important notice to charter boat captains regarding Code of Federal Regulations 46 Shipping parts 1 to 29, dated October 1, 1980. Kindly note the following statements, which are mandatory.

Safety Orientation.

A. Before getting under way in any vessel, carrying 6 or fewer passengers for hire, the operator in charge shall ensure that suitable public announcements, instructive placards or both are provided in a manner which affords all passengers the opportunity to become acquainted with:

1. Stowage locations of life preservers.

2. Proper method of donning and adjusting life preservers of the type(s) carried on the vessel.

3. The type and location of all lifesaving devices carried on the vessel.

4. The location and contents of the Emergency Checkoff List.

Measures to be considered in the event of: A. rough weather at sea or crossing hazardous bars; B. Man overboard; C. Fire at sea.

Vessels subject to this subpart engaged in tender service at yacht clubs and marinas and vessels being demonstrated for a potential purchaser by a yacht broker are excluded from the requirements.

Preparations for Emergencies.

The following emergency check off lists shall be posted in a suitable frame with a glass cover or equivalent.

A. ROUGH WEATHER AT SEA OR CROSSING HAZARDOUS BARS.

1. Close all watertight and weathertight doors, hatches, and airports to prevent taking water aboard.

2. Keep bilges dry to prevent loss of stability due to water in bilges.

3. Keep passengers seated and evenly distributed.

4. Have passengers put on life preservers if the going becomes very rough or you are about to cross a hazardous bar.

5. Never abandon a vessel (particularly a wooden boat) unless actually forced to do so.

6. If assistance is needed use the international distress call over radiotelephone or call the Coast Guard immediately.

7. Prepare life floats for launching.

B. MAN OVERBOARD

1. Throw a ring buoy overboard as close to the person as possible.

2. Post a lookout to keep the person overboard in sight.

3. Maneuver the vessel to pick up the person in the water.

4. Have crew member put on life

jacket, attach a safety line to him and have him standby to jump into the water to assist the person overboard if necessary.
5. If person is not immediately located notify Coast Guard and other vessels in vicinity by radiotelephone.
6. Continue search until released by Coast Guard.
C. FIRE AT SEA
1. Cut off air supply to fire—close hatches, ports, doors, and ventilators, etc.
2. Immediately use portable fire extinguishers at base of flames for inflammable liquid or grease fires or water for fires in ordinary combustible materials.
3. If fire is in machinery space shut off fuel supply and ventilation and discharge fixed co2 if installed.
4. Maneuver vessel to minimize effect of wind on fire.
5. If unable to control fire, immediately notify the Coast Guard and other boats in the vicinity by radiotelephone, etc.
6. Move passengers away from fire, have them put on life preservers, and if necessary prepare to abandon ship.

Posting placards containing instructions for launching and inflating inflatable liferafts. Every vessel equipped with inflatable liferafts shall have posted in conspicuous places which are regularly accessible to the crew and/or passengers.
Emergency Instructions:
A. The operator in charge of each vessel carrying 6 or fewer passengers for hire shall ensure that an emergency checkoff list is posted in a conspicuous, continuously accessible place to serve as a notice to the passengers and a reminder to the crew of precautionary measures which may be necessary in the event of an emergency situation.
B. Except where any part of the emergency instructions are deemed unnecessary by the Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection, the emergency checkoff list must contain not less than the applicable portions of the sample emergency checkoff list included here.

When in the judgement of the cognizant, Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection, the operation of any vessel subject to this section does not present the hazards listed on the emergency checkoff list or when any vessel has no suitable mounting surface, an exclusion from the requirements regarding Emergency Instructions, granted by letter from the United States Coast Guard.

TO ALL BOAT OWNERS:
Discharge of Oil:

Federal regulations now provide that "no person may operate a vessel, except a foreign vessel or a vessel less than 26' in length, unless it has a placard at least 5" x 8" made of durable material, fixed in a conspicuous place in the machinery spaces, or at the bilge and ballast pump control station. These placards can be purchased at any Marine Supply store for less than $1.00 each. If the Coast Guard should board your vessel for inspection and these placard(s) are not in place then be prepared to pay a fine of $500.00.
COURTESY OF Capt. Irv Levine, Modern Mariners Training Services.

New Products

JOHNSON OUTBOARDS NEW "WORKHORSE" LINE

Johnson Outboards has introduced to the United States two new "Workhorse" outboards, part of its world-wide line of heavy-duty outboards made especially for commercial use.

The Workhorse 25 and 40 bring to three the number of commercial engines in the Johnson line. The Workhorse 55, featuring Johnson's recreational Sea-Horse styling was previewed in September.

Standard features found on all three outboards include a rugged top mount starter, special fuel filter (which can be cleaned externally), full throttle reverse and a stainless steel water pump for longer life.

The 241 Weekender features a Quiet, Reliable Inboard/Outboard • Recessed Non-Skid Walkway around Cabin • Self-Bailing Cockpit • Full F/G Innerliner • Big, Comfortable Cuddy • Large, Insulated Fishboxes

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"Before their introduction to this country, these two outboards were engineered for use in the rugged Far Eastern countries and South America where outboards are not often thought of as a pleasure item but rather as a tool," said Johnson Outboards Manager Tom Kalbfus. "They have been tested worldwide through a wide range of marine conditions."

"What we've learned from the people who make a living using them in their jobs has been engineered into these units for a heavier duty engine with longer life."

One prime example of this, Kalbfus pointed out, is the corrosion protection built into each Johnson outboard developed through research with the Workhorse. After studying the effects of high temperature and humidity in the salt water coastal regions of the Far East, special corrosion-resistant metals, primers and baked enamel paints were instituted into the entire line of both the pleasure and commercial outboards.

"Through this and additional research we incorporated a sacrificial zinc anode into the lower unit for additional corrosion protection," Kalbfus said.

"And because these engines are used in rugged and, often, remote conditions, simplicity is needed," Kalbfus pointed out. "That's why we include a spare parts kit, a tool kit and an easily understood service manual with every Johnson Workhorse.

Features found on the Workhorse 25 include an extra-long steering tiller with a built-in twist-grip throttle, a rubber prop hub that helps absorb underwater shocks to the prop shaft and drive gears, and a splined prop shaft that securely locks on the propeller. "Powerful for its size it is also lightweight and compact," Kalbfus said.

The Workhorse 40, which has been in the world market for over a decade has proven to be a rugged and durable outboard. It has what Johnson engineers call a "flat power curve" which gives steady power throughout its operating range regardless of the type of boat or load. It also features the extra-long steering tiller with twist-grip throttle.

A center-mounted steering handle with built-in stop button and idle adjustment knob is installed on the Workhorse 55. Other features include fuel-prime starting, electronic ignition, a heavy-duty one-piece gear case, and up-front easy-access controls.

All three Workhorses also have optional chrome water pump kits available for work in the dirtiest of waters. A wide-range of optional propellers are also available.

NEW TACKLE BOX HITS THE FISHING MARKET

No more fumbling in tackle boxes or vests for the next lure or fly. Tak-Pak, the newest improvement in fishing tackle, is now in mass production for nationwide distribution.

Developed and tested for several years in the trout streams surrounding Yellowstone National Park, Tak-Pak offers the angler low-cost convenience. And for the wilderness fisherman, it's the only tackle box needed on those rugged climbs up to the high country or far into the deep woods.

This lure and fly box has nine deep compartments, and it straps securely to the angler's chest. When folded out, the contents are easily accessible. The built-in sorting shelf provides a useful working surface to change tackle.

The box is constructed of tough polyurethane and propylene plastics. The straps are nylon, and all buckles are nickel to resist corrosion. If you should drop it, the box will float momentarily for retrieval.

Tak-Pak can add to the amount of time you have your line in the water, simply by saving you many minutes of lure-changing time formerly lost searching through vest pockets or backing out to the stream to change tackle. For the fly fisherman or the angler who enjoys throwing spinners and spoons Tak-Pak puts more fun into fishing.

Further details are available by writing: Tak-Pak Sporting Goods, 135 Burlington Ave, Billings, Montana 59101.

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Support for D.J. Expansion

by Al Ristori

The National Wildlife Federation (NFW) has called upon its members and affiliated organizations in all 50 states to push for Congressional passage of the Fish Restoration Act of 1981—better known as the Dingell/Johnson Expansion Bill. At the same time, Dr. Jay D. Hair, executive vice president of the NWF, sent a letter to the president of the American Fishing Tackle Manufacturers Association sharply criticizing the AFTMA for withdrawing support of the fish restoration bill. Additional strong support for the D/J expansion was recently provided in a press release from Russ Cookingham, director of the New Jersey Division of Fish, Game and Wildlife.

Dr. Hair pointed out that the D/J law, since 1950, has channeled more than $339 million to state fish and wildlife agencies to help them provide better fishing for the public. He further noted that funds generated by the D/J program (3/4 from D/J and 1/4 from the states) have created 341 fishing lakes (providing 3 million fishing days annually) and 3,042 accesses to 893,000 acres of water and 2,474 miles of streams. The funds have also been used to construct fish hatcheries and artificial fishing reefs, for research on new management techniques (including the stocking of striped bass in fresh waters), and to stock fish in public waters.

The AFTMA supports expansion of the present 10% excise tax on some items of fishing tackle to include others (such as line and hooks) that weren't covered in the original bill. However, AFTMA has refused support of the more controversial portion which imposes a 3% excise tax on boats of 25 feet or less—except sailboats, kayaks, hydroplanes, and those used for commercial purposes. Also falling under the 3% tax umbrella would be outboard motors, boat trailers, outriggers, downriggers, fishing chairs, rod belts, and harnesses. The proposed 3% tax is vigorously opposed by most boat manufacturers and the outboard motor industry.

It's the latter portion of the proposal which would have a great impact on the amount of money going to each state. If it all goes through, about $80 per year will be available for distribution to the states. Of course, the bill will eventually be paid by everyone who buys fishing tackle and associated boating equipment. This is a tax at the manufacturers level and, therefore, not nearly comparable to 3% or 10% at retail—but it is simply passed on to the consumer in the form of higher prices. There is no question about the value of the D/J program or that it is one of the most efficiently administered of Federal programs. The real problem is the fear of the boat and motor manufacturers that the additional tax will drive more customers away and force some non-fishermen to finance fishing projects.

According to Hair, AFTMA has been guilty of "distortion and deception" in recent press releases announcing its change of position on the D/J bill and falsely alleging that Federal funds for fishery improvement are used for "historic monuments, tennis and basketball courts, etc., etc." He further charged that AFTMA's list of alternative sources for funding was simply a "smokescreen" as none of the Federal laws and programs cited can be expected to produce any funds for sport fishing.

The funding formula used for the D/J Fund has discriminated against both the saltwater angler and small states with large populations. Nevertheless, Russ Cookingham is urging fellow New Jersey fishermen to support the D/J expansion. At present New Jersey receives only the minimum $309,500 out of $33.6 million available. On the other hand, a sparsely-populated state like Montana gets $716,218. That's because the monies are divided on the basis of fishing licenses sold and land area. With no saltwater license, New York gets shortchanged on the former requirement, but New Jersey loses out on both criteria.

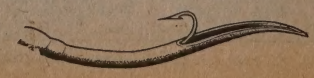
Cookingham points out that the expansion bill new D/J funds would be divided within the state in the same proportion as the number of saltwater anglers bears to the number of freshwater anglers. Assuming that the expanded bill would raise New Jersey's share to about $1 million, nearly 2/3 of that would go to saltwater programs. Marine anglers have been paying this excise tax all along (and actually paying proportionately more, since their tackle is generally more expensive) but have received few benefits. The new legislation would correct this to some extent in terms of sharing, but states like New Jersey will still be shortchanged on the proportion of the funds to be returned unless the formula is changed.

The D/J expansion bills are H.R. 2250, sponsored by Rep. John Breaux (D-LA), and S. 546, sponsored by Sen. Jennings Randolph (D-WV). They have powerful Administration support from Vice President Bush and Secretary of the Interior Watt. Among the organizations backing this legislation are the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Bass Anglers Sportsmens Society (BASS), American Fisheries Society, Sport Fishing Institute, Izaak Walton League, Trout Unlimited, American League of Anglers, Federation of Fly Fishermen, Striper, and National Coalition for Marine Conservation.

Anglers wishing to express their opinions on this important legislation should contact the following local members of the House Subcommittee on Fisheries and Wildlife Conservation and the Environment: Edwin B. Forsythe (R-NJ), William Hughes (D-NJ), Thomas Evans, Jr. (R-DE), and William Carney (R-L.I.). Also passing on this bill will be the House Select Revenue Measures Subcommittee, chaired by William Cotter (D-CT). In the Senate the legislation goes through the Subcommittee on Environmental Pollution, chaired by John Chafee (R-RI), which includes Daniel Moynihan (D-NY) as a member. Address letters to: The Honorable ..., U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, D.C. 20515 or U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510. Regardless of your position on this issue, I do recommend that you urge the Congressmen to change the formula to eliminate the land area criteria and include the number of unlicensed saltwater anglers as specified in the NMFS survey.

Offshore Weather Now Available

Offshore weather info for canyon fishermen is now available from Rutgers University. By calling 201-349-1152 you can get weather info for the area 80-100 miles offshore from Block Canyon to Baltimore Canyon. This service is available weekdays from 4:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. and all weekend. The information includes a weather synopsis and forecast, data on winds, sea conditions, visibility, and a five-day forecast.



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THIS WEEK'S WINNING NUMBER IS:

5822-RL

LAST WEEK'S WINNER IS:

John Donahue, Jr. called by the deadline to become last week's L.I.F. bumper sticker contest winner. He won a fishing trip aboard the Starstream II out of Freeport.

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MARLIN IV	Capt.	SUPER SPRAY	PILOT II	EVER READY	CASEY LEE
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	BEN LITWIN				
	CAPT. ROD				

LOST IN THE MAILBAG

Part Two — *by William A. Muller*

THE LAST FEW LETTERS. For those of you who may have missed last week's issue, these are letters that were read and considered as possible winners for last year's reel contest, but were not judged as winners by the LIF staff.

CHARLES STIFTER OF NEW YORK CITY. "As a subscriber and an avid fisherman in all areas of Long Island, I think that it would be most interesting to devote some space in your publication to short interviews with captains, mates, and other fisherpersons for insights into what is happening now or in the very near future on the fishing scene in their specific locality. I hope that I am making my point clear: something on the order of the inquiring photographer. Also, we need some up-to-date information on television and radio about tides, winds, sea conditions. What I hear on radio and television is so far off the mark. Can the LIF sponsor some kind of audio information network. Perhaps a weather conditions and information ''Hotline.' Thanks for listening." Charles, on your first point about interviews. We run, in LIF, a series called the **Long Island Fisherman Interview** series. These interviews are run periodically at no precise pace. Most of the interviews have been done by Stu Miller, our Advertising Director, but I have done one or two as well. Consult your back issues for more details. Thanks for your thought on this one; it was and is a good idea. Obviously we agree. On the weather info. Last winter I wrote a rather lengthy letter to Mr. "G", the CBS weatherman. I explained the situation you mention in great detail. I asked for help on behalf of all of us. He didn't see fit to even answer the letter. I wonder about that. Seems to me 100,000 readers deserve an answer. If anybody out there knows Mr. "G" ask him to get off his buns and show some interest. You're right; winds and other weather information reported on television and radio is terrible and often has no resemblance to what we find when we get to the sea. Two very good thoughts. Thanks.

VITO COLAMUSSI OF ELMONT. Vito's letter was a long one, so we'll excerpt it. Vito begins by taking us back thirty years to the purchase of a seven foot rod that was a prize to him. It was September and he took off from work to go fishing. "It was a bad day's fishing for me. It was late afternoon and I was reeling in my bait when a strange creature grabbed it. I boated a twelve inch squid. One of the old-timers on board told me to put it on my hook and let it go back to the bottom, which I did. Soon the captain gave two toots of his horn that was the signal to lift lines and return to port. I started to reel in but it seemed as if I was hooked solid to something. We all figured I was snagged and the captain told the mate to cut the line. The old-timer told the captain to give me a few more minutes. Suddenly I was able to reel in a little line. It seemed like a lifetime, but I eventually boated the largest pool winning fluke of my life: a fish of 9¾ lbs." Great story Vito. You reminded me of something that I have been meaning to share with our readers for some time. That is, saltwater fishing really has some special thrills to offer. That's not to say that there aren't thrills in freshwater fishing. Rather, I mean that no matter where you fish, how you fish, or what you fish for in the briny, there is always the chance for the outsized fish that not only makes the day but often a lifetime impression. There's the gal or guy who while fishing for flounder catches a forty pound bass, or the doormat fluke, or the prized mako. Whatever it is, it is a special feeling to cast out your line and never really know what you might tangle with.

SAM CHOY OF NEW YORK CITY. Sam is one of several who have written in to express interest in a series of articles that we ran several years ago about the making of a custom surf bag. Sam suggests that some of the figures are not too easy to follow and asks for some help. Let me take this opportunity to say that Bob Krauss is both an accomplished surf fisherman and a gifted craftsman. I consider myself handy, but I defer to Bob to help me make some things. I would never attempt to make that surf bag. That how-to surf series was not intended as a suggestion that everyone should make their own surf bag. Frankly, we believe that it was best approached by the more experienced craftsman. I reached my first stumbling block when I got to some of the language that describes tools and techniques and I'll bet that there are a lot of other fishermen who face the same dilemma. For most purposes, the commercial bags do just fine. If you insist upon making the bag that Bob wrote about and you aren't a mechanic, why not take the article to someone who is for guidance and consultation. For additional reference consult issues #12 and #13, Vol. 12, 1977.

ROBERT MIKENZIE OF Brooklyn. "In response to the November 20th issue in The Long Island Fisherman quiz by Fred Guardineer, I found it hard to believe that dogfish lay eggs. I am a year-round fisherman and I have seen many dogfish give birth to live young, although upon gutting the dogfish I sometimes find eggs in the oviduct. So I did some research on the dogfish and found that both the smooth and spiny dogfish carry eggs in the female oviduct where they remain until hatching. Then the young are about a foot long. It takes about 18 to 22 months for the spiny dogfish to give birth and about ten months for the smooth. What say you Doc?" Let Mr. Mikenzie's letter serve as the example of a number of letters that we received following the publishing of that quiz. If you'll allow me then. I'd like this one answer to serve for all without specific replies. First, in defense of Fred Guardineer it must be said that the literature describing the reproduction of dogfish is often rather confusing and it was easy for Fred to confuse the deposition of eggs into the oviduct with the process of laying eggs. Readers should know that Fred had and does do a lot of south shore winter codfishing. He has caught his share of doggies and he has seen them give birth the same way you and I have. Fred's a gracious and knowledgeable guy; we should not be too quick to knock the very occasional mistake he makes. We all make mistakes; God knows my column makes it share of bloopers.

ANOTHER TIDBIT! You may also be interested to know that reproduction in the spiny dogfish takes on another curious aspect. The fish actually give birth each year even though the gestation period is between 18 and 22 months. The reason for this is that the eggs are fertilized each year. Now as one brood is maturing the other brood is behind the first and at a different stage of maturation.

DON DURANDO OF REGO PARK. "I have recently read a transcript of an interview with Col. Harlan Saunders, founder of the Kentucky Fried Chicken empire. He claimed that he would not touch fish and chips or fried fish sandwiches because they are

made from codfish which feed on 'sea dung' lying on the bottom of the ocean. On November 29, 1980 I viewed an NBC-TV program called 'Road Show'. One of the cast members was eating a fast food fried fish sandwich. She thought it was fillet of whitefish. Another cast member told her that it was actually codfish. He went on to say that codfish are small sea creatures that feed on 'seal droppings.' Now that millions of readers and television viewers have been exposed to this misinformation, I am sure that we will be hearing much more of it. Who originates these lies? Why? Who stands to profit from these false rumors? What can be done to bring the truth to the public?"

FIRST THINGS FIRST. Needless to say, since I did not read the account you mention or see the TV show in quesiton, I cannot comment firsthand. Is it possible that you misunderstood? Never mind, because whether these statements were made and intended as you say is not the point. You ask: "What can be done to bring the truth to the public?" Perhaps a better question would be what can be done to honestly discuss this situation regardless of what may or may not be said by others? I can remember a letter from a reader a few years back who expressed the view that fish and chips were made from dogfish. Well, needless to say that isn't the case. Perhaps somebody out there does make the fish in fish and chips this way, but our investigations indicate that the large commercial fast food fish places use codfish. About cod. Sure cod eat whatever is edible on the sea floor. However, I doubt that a cod would seek out "seal droppings" and I don't even know what "sea dung" is. Fish have to eat whatever they can find that won't kill them. Perhaps if most people got over their psychological reactions to what others things eat these questions wouldn't arise. If you are curious about this type of thing, you might be interested in knowing some of the strange things that a blue claw crab eats or even the mighty striped bass, but no creature seeks out fecal matter or anything that isn't edible on purpose. The cod, well they'll eat crabs, lobster, sand eels, flounder, etc.! Incidentally, it seems that the creatures that eat-whatever-on the sea floor often have the best and most delicate taste. Ask a lobster what it dined on next time you get a chance.

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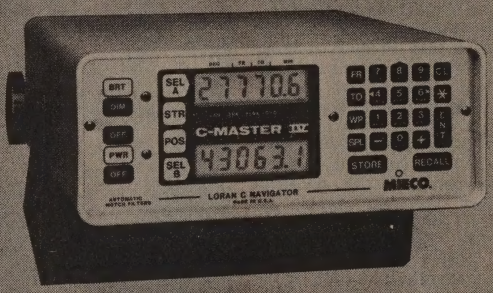

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SINKER BOUNCING

SNAPPER FISHING

by Matt Ahern

In all my years of sinker bouncing, I've met but one fisherman who claimed he didn't enjoy snapper fishing. So I guess it is safe enough for me to say that just about every fishermen loves to go snapper fishing. Not everyone does go snapper fishing, of course, but it is my thought that everyone should. At least once.

Now that snapper time is fast approaching, I find myself courting the exquisite thrill of anticipation as my thoughts wander to the simply, easy fishing that is soon to come. But I find I must not linger too long in this anticipation, for invariably those thoughts become tinged with a bit of sadness, sadness for the carefree boyhood days that will never be again. I guess I am just a sentimental old fisherman. But don't hold it against me. I can't help it.

Snappers have always held a warm spot in my fishing heart, for they were the first saltwater fish I attempted to catch. Of course there is nothing unusual about this; most fishermen will tell you it was the pursuit of snappers which also began their amorous affair with the fishing game.

Though nearly 60 years have passed, I can still see myself as a knee-pants kid perched on the Sheepshead Bay sea wall, gripping a two-piece bamboo snapper pole, ever on the alert for the slightest twitch of my homemade bottle-cork bobber. Would you believe I still have that bottle cork, with the match stick still inserted through its center? But I dare not go near it lest my emotions get the better of me.

Well, anyway, let's delve a little into early Sheepshead Bay snapper fishing.

The only difference in snapper fishing then and snapper fishing today is the manner of bait and its presentation. For bait those days we always used store-bought shrimp. At that time I never saw artificial lures used for snappers, nor did I ever use spearing. In fact, as far as I can remember, I never saw spearing used for any fish—fluke included. (Before everyone takes pen in hand to tell me I'm all wet, let me say I'm only writing about what I remember.)

At the price of shrimp today, I doubt very much if we fishermen would use it for snapper bait. But in those early days shrimp was cheap. For a nickel, a kid could buy enough shrimp for all day snapper fishing. A dime was sufficient for two, possibly

A box of fresh bait...

...will produce snappers like this.

three kids. I put it this way because this statement needs explanation.

Our snapper-shrimp was never weighed. For a nickel you got a single handful. For a dime, a double handful. But we kids weren't dumb. We knew that the size of a man's hand varied from one individual to another. Therefore we would check out the many small fish stands which then studded Emmons Avenue. The stand that got our business was the one that employed the biggest guy. And none of us would ever do business with a fish stand whose attendant happened to be a lady. Not that we kids had anything again ladies—except for the fact that their hands were much too small to give us as many shrimp as it was possible to get from the guy with huge meat hooks.

So, we kids would while away our summer days, matching snapper for snapper with each other. As the summer progressed, we'd often find yearling mackerel in our catch. And when October arrived, the full moon (if it was early in the month) was sure to bring us herring. This was strictly down-up fishing, offering much sport. It was no trick at all to catch 100 herring. Ah! The blessings of boyhood!

We all know that the amount of fish available today rarely compares with what was available in the long ago. If you haven't lived through this "glut" of fish firsthand, I'm sure you've heard about it. But this doesn't apply to snapper fishing.

There are just as many snappers available today as there were in the days of my youth. And I'll tell you something I've noticed. Those snappers I catch today are larger than those I caught as a kid. Not that there weren't big snappers around then, but today's fishing methods are much more sophisticated. Our old-fashioned methods tended to entice the smaller fish to the baited hook, the larger ones were much too shrewd to fall for our kid stuff.

The nice thing about snapper fishing it its utter simplicity. Tackle is never a problem as the standard snapper rod is the long, whippy bamboo pole sold by the thousands each summer in all tackle shops and most hardware stores. These are cheap and take lots of abuse. In fact, I don't believe you will ever buy fishing tackle for so little which returns so much in pleasure.

Rigging a snapper pole is simple. All that is needed is a length of line about one foot longer than the rod, a plastic or cork bobber, and a snapper hook. These are known by old-timers as Bridgeport snapper hooks, but if you are unsure, just ask the man behind the counter for snapper hooks. He'll know what you mean. You can also use a Carlisle hook in sizes two to four.

My advice is to shun any short or regular-shanked hook. Snappers may be small, but like their bigger brothers, the bluefish, their mouths are armed with many strong, needle-sharp teeth and they can slice through a hook's snell in a flash.

For bamboo rod fishing, use ten pound test monofilament. If a substitute is necessary, make sure to use a three foot leader of monofilament. Snappers are bold, but occasionally they become line shy. The mono leader will help overcome this tendency.

Use a small split shot, or a medium-sized clinch sinker above the hook snell. This will help keep the bobber upright, and also aid the fish to overcome its suspicion that all is not well. Should you find the terminal tackle tangling around the main line as you attempt to get it in the water, just stop its forward motion as it enters. This also applies to any small lures you may use when casting with a spinning rod.

Although most bobbers in common use are round, my preference leans to the long, slender type. These are more sensitive and offer no resistance when the snapper moves off with the bait. It is best to adjust the bobber so that your bait is at least three feet below the surface. This may vary because snappers feed at different depths from day to day. Some experimentation is called for here.

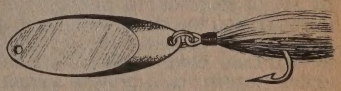
Fresh spearing, live killies, strips of fish bait such as snapper and squid all work well. Frozen baits will produce, but nothing beats fresh stuff—especially fresh spearing.

Until the advent of spinning tackle, most snapper fishing was indulged in by kids and oldsters. But now, everyone gets in the act. A light, six-foot rod with matching reel filled with six pound test mono is ideal. This is the tackle that nails the always available larger fish in late summer. Use either small Kastmasters, or Sidewinders (in blue or nickel finishes which resemble small mossbunkers), or any of the variety of small lures made for light spinning rods. Snappers find them hard to refuse, especially in a moving tide.

When cast as far as possible, these small lures should be allowed to sink about three feet, then retrieved with slow turnings of the reel handle. There will be times when snappers are seen following in the wake of the lure. Should this happen to you, slow your rate of retrieve. It is much too fast. Tomorrow those snappers may accept a faster retrieve, but for today, give them what they want.

Excellent snapper fishing begins next month. Give it a try. As mentioned before, not everyone goes snapper fishing, but everyone should.

At least once.



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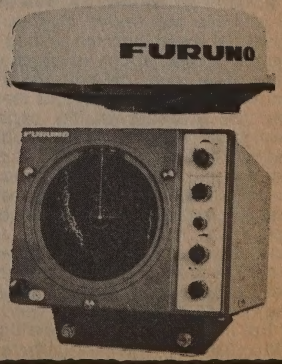


SURF FISHING

STRIPER BAIT!

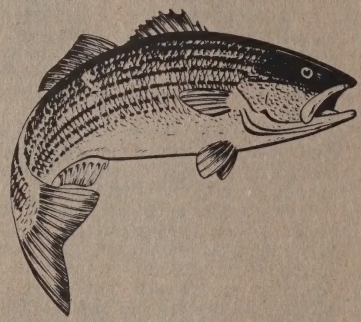
by John Fritz

One of the more interesting aspects of any fishing club is its special contests. This competition normally consists of club members competing for prizes while fishing a specific location within a limited time period. Because the schedule of these contests are usually determined at winter meetings and are based on previous season's exploits, they occasionally result in failure. Detrimental weather conditions may cancel any pre-planned fishing trip but on many occasions a shift in the species behavior will disappoint the expectant anglers. When a species does not follow its anticipated routine the turnout at these contests is sparse with the result that the following year's contest is dropped and a new one devised in an effort to improve the members response.

In my club there is one special contest which for many years has had no change of date, species or location and has proven to be the most popular time after time. This competition takes place in mid-June at Breezy Point with members using sand worms to entice striped bass in the night time surf. Although Breezy is an excellent location to pursue this endeavor and the month of June is a prime time to seek the recently arrived bass, other locations and the entire season can provide ample opportunities to sample this type fishing.

Many surfmen assume that fishing bottom can only be practiced in areas where the bottom consists of sand or loose gravel. It is true that locations such as Point Lookout, Democrat, Shinnecock and the Montauk shore from Ditch Plains west are favorites, but certain rock strewn beaches will also produce impressive catches of stripers for those surfmen willing to take the extra effort involved in fishing these more difficult regions. In an unlikely shoreline such as found under the Montauk bluffs, certain coves are sufficiently free of troublesome boulders to provide some of the finest opportunities to enjoy remarkable bottom fishing. On the opposite shore, similar action was once experienced on the rocky bottom from the Oyster Pond Cut to the Stepping Stones. The latter area has been more or less abandoned since gill netters chose to work this area intensively. In fact the likelihood of encountering a netter along any of the Montauk beaches is high forcing prospective surfmen to make a difficult decision. The Montauk region has probably the best potential of any area on Long Island, but competition from netters is becoming more of a burden on surfmen fishing this area. Before I get off on a tangent which has little relation to the intent of this article let me just state that the possibilities offered by the Montauk waterfront far outweigh its deficiencies.

Long Island Sound beaches, many of which are similar to Montauk's north side, also provide ample productive locations. Wildwood State Park, Cedar Beach in Mt. Sinai and Crabmeadow in Northport are but a



few of the many possibilities offered out east. Closer to the City, the cove under the Throggs Neck Bridge and Little Neck Bay are two areas popular with local bass fishermen.

Because the areas mentioned above encompass such a wide variety of physical characteristics, no standard statement concerning the desired weather can be made. It can be stated though that blustery onshore winds will roil the surf making bottom fishing with worms difficult. A crisp onshore wind with just enough force to create some wave action is preferred in most of the south shore areas and also on the north shore beaches which are not subject to immediate stirring of the bottom sediment.

Crystal clear water is not always desired by plug fishermen, for the fish can inspect the lure too carefully before striking. When fishing with bait clear water is of no concern; in fact it can be advantageous. In clear water or cloudy the bait should be checked frequently for accumulations of weed or damage to the worms from crabs or short striking fish. The practice of casting the bait seaward and then placing the rod in a spike until a strike is evident will result in many missed opportunities and wasted time. I am not implying that sand spikes should be discarded, only that constant attention should be given to any rod with which one is fishing. On many occasions, especially when numerous school bass are present, it is often helpful to hold the rod in one's hand. Many light striking fish are missed when such hits go unnoticed with the rods resting in the spike.

Any gimmick which will aid the angler in detecting the slightest movement of the rod tip will increase the chance of success. Reflector tape spiralled around the rod between the last guide and the tip or even the practice of painting this section white will make the tip more visible in dim light. Surfmen fishing bottom on the Cape use small battery operated lights attached to the rod tip which readily indicates the slightest movement on the darkest of nights. The use of a Coleman lantern would be an obvious aid in keeping watch on a rod, but many anglers shun such usage for fear it will prevent wary bass from venturing too close to the beach. It is difficult to say whether this is true in all instances but the argument has been asserted that a stationary light has little effect on game fish swimming the surf. While it is true that a lantern is normally left in place people walking between it and the water creates an effect similar to flashing a light on and off. If a lantern is to be used it would be wise to shield its direct rays from shining into the water. This can be accomplished by digging a depression in the sand and tilting the lantern so that it is pointed skyward. Another thought is to place a plug bag or similar object in front of the light so that the beam illuminates the rod tips and not the water.

There are occasions when fishing two rods is difficult. When the fish are biting incessantly (a very rare occurrence) it is almost impossible to keep a second rod baited and cast without ignoring the first and missing an anxious fish. If this is the case there is little need for the second rod; unless one is fishing for the market. In another, less pleasing instance, heavy weed or a strong lateral sweep will result in constant casting and retrieving to ensure the line is not fouled or washed down the beach.

When these elements are not

present, the use of two rods can be beneficial for a greater area of bottom can be covered in search of the feeding zones of the game fish, one rod cast long, while the second bait is put out short, will double the chance of success. In a similar manner one terminal rig can be arranged so that the hook is held close to the bottom while the other rod can be rigged to allow the bait to float free. It must be remembered that any rod left in a sand spike should have a loosened drag.

Most south shore bottom fishing is practiced with 11 foot rods and reels similar to the Penn 704 or 706 while in the calmer waters of the north shore a 10 foot stick with a Penn 710 is ideal. The reason the equipment differs is not because of the size bass one is likely to encounter, for cow bass are just as prevalent up north, but the stronger currents and heavier surf found in the ocean is for the most part non-existent in the Sound.

There are two popular terminal rigs to be used when fishing worms for striped bass. The majority of anglers favor the fish finder rig, but when school bass predominate or when the presence of weakfish is suspected, the use of a pompano or double loop rig will increase the chance of success by offering two baited hooks rather than one. In many instances, these smaller bass and weaks will take only the tail of the worm necessitating the addition of a tandem hook, commonly referred to as a stinger. In almost all cases the addition of a cork to float the hook off the bottom, takes the bait away from bottom roaming crabs. As a general rule, the larger oval cork (2" x 2") is used in conjunction with the fish finder, while the narrower 2"x1/2" cork is preferable on the double loop rig.

The worm, in most cases a sandworm, is placed on the hook by forcing the point into its mouth and exiting from the back of the head. In this manner approximately 1/4 to 1/2 inch of worm is impaled on the shank of the hook. When fishing for bass, several worms should be added to each hook allowing the tails to dangle enticingly in the currents. Therefore it is best to purchase the worms by the flat rather than by the dozen. The tendency to skimp on bait is reduced while the price per dozen is much cheaper.

Just a few remarks on sinkers before closing. Pyramid sinkers are used almost exclusively on the sand beaches while bank sinkers are favored for rocky areas. Surfmen working the latter regions would be advised to make the effort to locate a tackle store that offers pencil sinkera as they are least likely to hang up. Kronuch's at Montauk has been supplying east end surfmen for many years with these uncommon items.

Swimming worms in the night time surf is a pleasurable way to fish for striped bass, an enjoyable prelude to the hectic fall run. Try it, you could be delightfully surprised.

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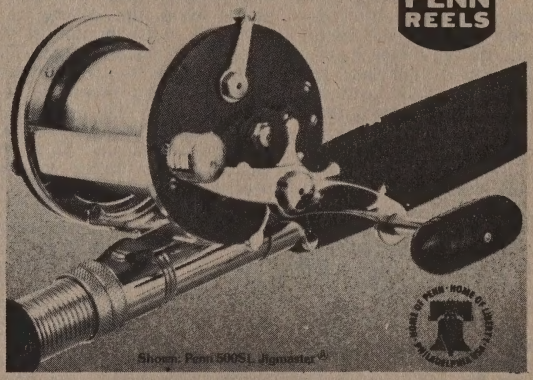

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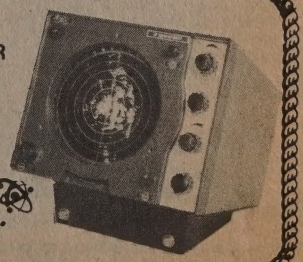

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How's Your Wave I.Q.?

by Bob Whittier

Because of the pull of the moon's gravity, ocean waters get pulled back and forth as the moon circles around the earth. This causes what we call tides. Tides cause currents. Currents in turn encounter winds. As a result, the world's oceans are in constant motion. Its endless heavings and surgings sometimes delight the eye—and sometimes intimidate the mind!

The Portuguese fishermen have it summed up neatly in their short but eloquent little prayer, "Oh Lord, thy sea is so great and my boat is so small!"

Whether one fishes for a living as do the Portuguese or for sport as do readers of this magazine, it pays to have a good working knowledge of waves. There's more to them than meets the landlubber's eye, too!

Know the difference between a swell and a wave? A swell has been described as being an "old wave." The gentle swell that makes small waves break languidly onto the beach had its beginnings in a storm far at sea. Out there the wind lashed the waves larger and larger. They radiated out from the storm area, much as ripples radiate out from the point where a pebble was tossed into a pond. As they traveled away from the storm area, they gradually lost their high, angry shape and settled down into low, easily-rounded swells.

Because of the vast amount of energy that dwells in storm waves, swells have the ability to travel hundreds upon hundreds of miles away from a storm area. They are funny animals. If a large ship chances to be traveling broadside to them, although they may seem quite low and harmless, they can set the ship to rolling rhythimically. This can cause passengers to suffer the hells of seasickness, even on a calm day. In extreme cases, such as when a boat is loaded top-heavily by a careless crew, it can roll to the point of toppling over.

Contrariwise, swells pose a negligible threat to small pleasure craft. They simply coast up and down the swells easily, like cars traveling a road over gently rolling terrain. But close to shore, large swells can become dangerous. As the water shoals, they begin to "feel" the rising bottom under them. They become shorter and steeper. Then they collapse. Surfboard riders love the resulting rollers. But any conventional boat that gets caught up in the surf line can be dashed to bits, or at least be rolled over and over. There may be no wind but there can be a dangerous surf!

Ocean liners are so huge that wind-driven waves of average size affect them but little. But small boats have a bad time on them. All waves, as anyone can see, move along at some rate of speed. What many small-boat people do not realize is that wave speed increases with wave size. The smaller waves encountered in boatable weather progress at a few miles an hour; the larger ones at several m.p.h.

Going with the waves, their speed is **deducted** from that of the boat to get the actual rate of contact between hull and wave. That's why a long boat ride downwind can seem easy and even pleasant. But when the boat retraces its course, it then meets the waves at hull speed **plus** wave speed. The result can be a crashing, bouncing, wet and slow fight back to port.

It pays to take note of predicted wind directions in evening TV weather forecasts, when you are planning to take your boat out the next day. If a smart wind is predicted, it might be wise to change plans, go some other place **against** the moderate morning wind and then be able to ride home **with** the higher, wind-drive afternoon waves.

It pays, too, to be aware of tide direction. When a strong tide is flowing one way and the wind is blowing hard the other way, conditions are right for the kind of short, steep seas that can give a boat a really bad time of it.

When swells happen to be coming in from seaward from one direction, and wind is building up wind-drive waves in another direction, the result is what is called confused seas: two separate wave patterns are trying to move along over one another and the sea can be as full of lumps and hollows as a waffle. Very tiresome to travel any great distance over.

Don't just take waves for granted. Realize they are caused by natural forces and obey the laws of physics. Don't fight them blindly. Figure out the best way to cope with a given day's wave conditions and put up a smart, logical fight.

Flat, calm days are the exception rather than the rule in our area. Every boatman should have a basic understanding of wave action.

Make A Better Crabnet

by Robert Hunt

The crab net has been around for more years than I can remember. It has a wooden handle with a wire frame on the end. On this frame is a rope net which will eventually rot, usually at the worst possible time. Added problems are that the wooden handle can break and the rope net easily fouls up with weeds.

The "better crab net" solves most of the problems of the old style net. It has a metal handle and a wire mesh basket. The metal handle won't break and it can be easily extended up to 20' for dock use. The wire basket serves two purposes. One is that the crabs are removed easier and faster. This is good for those times when you see two crabs at the same time. The second is that the net cleans easy. To remove the weeds just shake and swish in the water.

Materials:

2 - 10' pcs. of 1½" tubing—can be electrical, pipe, old antenna posts, etc.

1 - 8' pc. of 1" sq. wire mesh, 18" high.

1 - 5' pc. of 3/16" metal rod—brass, aluminum, steel

1 - 2' pc. of 1-3/8" wood dowel—size to fit inside pipe

6 - ¼ x 20 machine screws 2" long

Steps:

1. Cut a 6" piece of wood dowel.

2. Sand to fit inside diameter of tubing.

3. Insert flush with the end of the tubing.

4. Drill and bolt the 6" piece in the tubing.

5. Sand and fit the remaining dowell piece halfway into the other end of the tubing.

6. Drill and bolt in place.

7. Slide second length of tubing over dowel rod extending from the first pipe.

8. Drill and bolt in place, but use wing nuts to make this extra tubing a removal extension handle to the net.

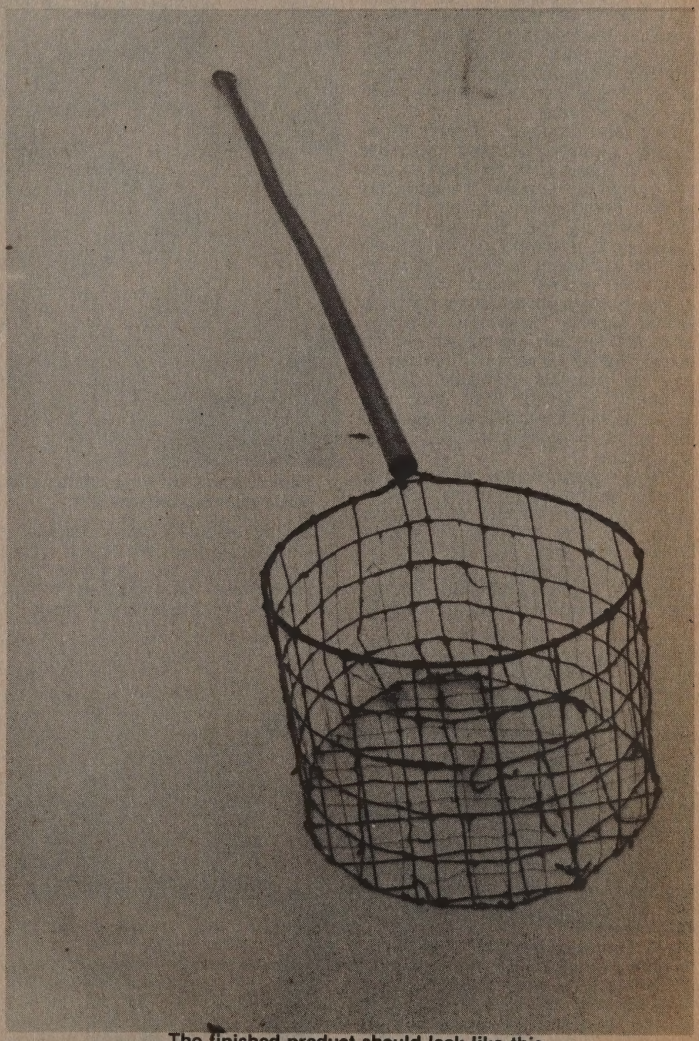
9. Bend a 16" to 18" circle with the metal rod making sure the ends overlap 3" after the circle is complete.

10. Bend the 3" rod overlap perpendicular to the outside of the circle.

11. Drill two 3/16" holes, 3" deep in the dowel plugged end of the tubing.

12. Hammer the 3" rod ends into the hole.

13. Cut 6' of wire mesh, 1' high.



The finished product should look like this.

14. Twist cut ends of the wire mesh around rim formed by the metal rod.

15. Continue twisting until you form a completed circle. Overlap 2" and cut off excess.

16. Twist ends of circled mesh together.

17. Cut a round piece of wire mesh 2" bigger than the round bottom of the net.

18. Lay the net on this piece and twist the 2" overlap up and around the sides.

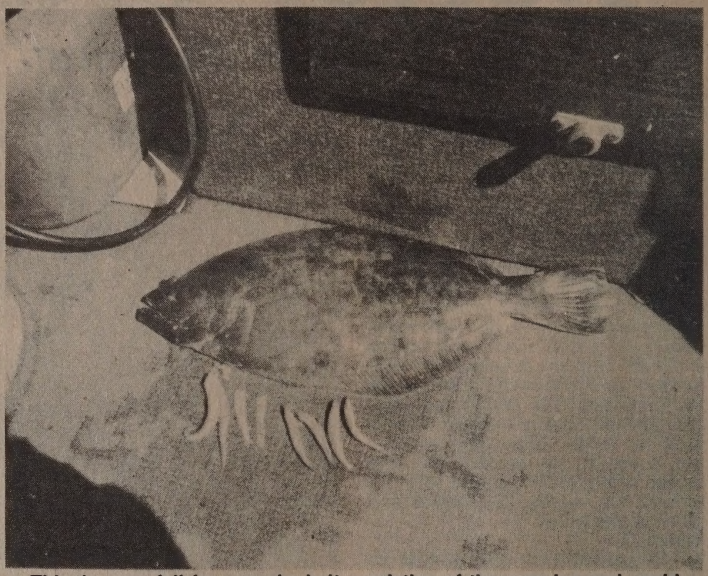
19. Any spaces in the mesh can be filled in by using ordinary wire to bridge the gap.

FLIP-SIDE FLUKE

by Andy Regina

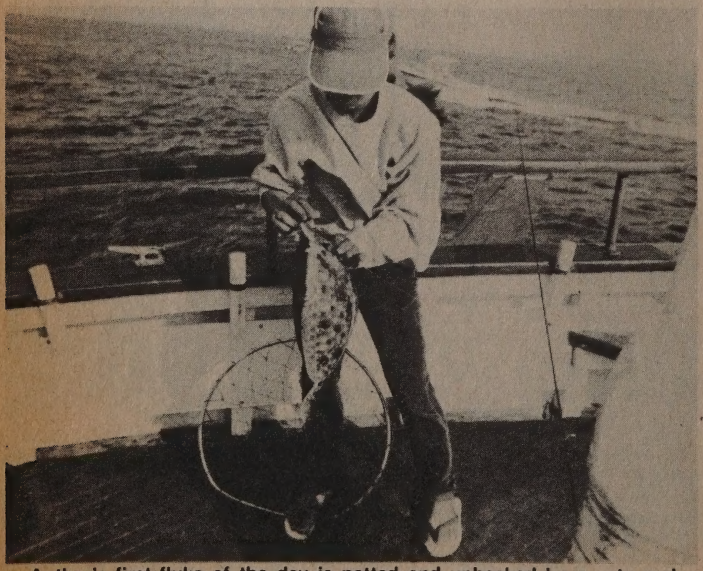
"Get the net!" The hoarse cry rang through the early morning stillness as I anxiously peered about for one of the deckhands. "Net!" I shouted again, eyeing a nice three or four pound fluke finning just below the surface at boatside. It was attached to my line by a 2/0 beak hook, snelled to a three foot monofilament leader and rigged about three or four inches above a one ounce bank sinker.

Nets are required to land these flatfish because of their uncanny knack of shaking off the hook as you lift 'em out of the water. I was forced to wait impatiently until one of the kids working the deck struggled towards me, dragging a long-handled net that was easily twice as tall as he was. All doubts about the kid's efficiency were stilled as my fish was landed expertly, whereupon the boy unhooked the fish and placed it in my bucket. When he removed his cap, a pair of pigtails tumbled down, revealing a pretty little girl who smiled as she demurely congratulated me, mumbling something like "Nice fish, mister."



This doormat fell for a combo bait consisting of the spearing and squid strips pictured alongside it.

It was August and my beloved Long Island Sound was in its annual doldrums. Sport fishing was deathly quiet and any attempt at fishing bottom with bait resulted only in feeding the bergalls. I had taken a ride out to Captree State Park, hoping that the fishing on the south shore of the Island would be better. Usually, I never venture from the Sound; years of fishing in my own back yard kept me so satisfied that there was no need for me to look elsewhere. I mean, if you got a good thing going for you, why bother to look anywhere else, right? I guess that's one reason that I've been happily married to Eileen for more than twenty-six years; I have learned to appreciate a good thing when I find one! Unlike my marriage, fishing does lead me elsewhere from time to time, hence my trip to the south shore that day. I just had to try the fishing on the flip side of the Island.



Author's first fluke of the day is netted and unhooked by a cute and efficient mate.

Captree State Park was built with the fisherman in mind, with a large fleet of clean, comfortable party boats lined up on the edge of a huge parking lot, and a mini-fleet of charter boats docked only slightly behind that. There are two public fishing piers on the premises as well as a bait and tackle shop, a large cafeteria, and clean rest rooms. Boats sail at various hours, catering to serious fishermen as well as casual late sleepers, and the service aboard each vessel is excellent and efficient, backed up by a friendly courtesy so often sadly lacking in other areas. Fishing is usually done within the confines of Great South Bay, where protected waters not only harbor a great variety of fish but offer carefree fishing for those prone to seasickness. And, situated as they are, most party boats can actually be fishing only minutes away from the dock.

That's what caused the delay in

netting my fish that morning; we had stopped to make our first drift just east of the Robert Moses Bridge, about fifteen minutes from the dock, and my fish had struck immediately. Otherwise, a landing net is always placed in a central position, one in the bow and one in the stern, for ready access. I had actually caught a fish before the kids had placed the nets in position.

The fluke or summer flounder is a unique fish; born normally, one of its eyes moves around until it is next to the other one, placing both eyes atop the head on the dark side, like the winter flounder. And like the winter flounder, its underside is white, but there all of the resemblance comes to a screeching halt. First of all, fluke are much larger than their diminutive cousins. Whereas a fourteen inch flounder is considered a large fish, according to New York State law that is the minimum keeper size for fluke. Any fluke less than fourteen inches in length cannot be legally kept and should be gently released to allow them to continue growing. Averaging a pound or two, doormats of over five pounds are fairly common and fish up to ten pounds or so are taken each season; larger fish are caught occasionally and fluke in the fifteen pound class occur from time to time. The world record rod and reel fluke for many years was a twenty-three pound fish that was caught from shore at Oak Beach by a woman, but that was surpassed by a twenty-five pound fish taken from a boat in 1980.

Born predators, fluke are equipped with sharp teeth and feed on baitfish, crabs, shrimp, and worms. Masters of camouflage, they bury themselves in sand, digging in till only their eyes protrude. Like chameleons, they have the uncanny ability to match the design and color of the bottom. It's been said that if a fluke was laid out on a checkerboard it would assume the red and black squared pattern, but this is a gross exaggeration of its phenomenal camouflage capabilities. Buried in the bottom it matches, the fluke lies waiting in ambush for dinner to swim by, jetting forth to engulf its prey with sharp teeth.

Fishing for fluke is usually a drifting affair, which not only imparts lifelike action to dead baitfish but allows for greater coverage of potentially productive areas. Favored ambush points are generally the downtide sides of sloughs and ridges, the lanes normally traversed by baits such as killies, spearing, and sand eels. As these baits predominate fluke diets, they are naturally the most popular baits used by fishermen. Employed in combination with a strip of squid or with pork rind, these favored baits account for the majority of fluke caught each season. The season, incidentally, generally runs from May to September, but can last slightly longer if water temperatures remain warm. In late summer the fish gather near inlets, putting on the feedbag as they prepare to depart quickly once the water temperature drops. Here is where some of the best fluke fishing occurs, both in quality and quantity, and serious fluke addicts live for the balmy days of mid-September.

While fishing methods remain the same, late summer/early fall fluking techniques change, modified to meet altered demands. We now concentrate our efforts around the inlets; if the fish are massed near places such as the Fire Island Inlet or the Moriches Inlet, it makes better fishing sense to zero in on those areas if you want any fish-catching odds to be in your favor. Baits change now also, although the baits described above are still fairly productive. Whole, live snappers account for a good share of large fluke now because they also happen to be concentrated in inlet areas, and because they quite often are the predominant bait. The key to any good fishing with bait is to use the bait that the fish are feeding on at the moment. If the fish want snappers, give 'em snappers; if not, find out what they want and feed them that!

Live snappers can be hooked in the nose or directly in front of the dorsal fin. Dead snappers can be used also, if they are fresh and if they are rigged so that they appear life-like to the fluke. Here the snapper is fished on a two-hook rig, one hook through the hard part of the nose and the other hook, attached via a short length of mono leader, through the body near the tail. Because these baits are fairly large, once a fluke is felt mouthing it you should drop back slightly to allow the fish to properly ingest the bait. A drop back is nothing more than releasing several feet of line, whereupon you should lift the rod slowly once the line tightens again, to feel if the fluke has taken the hook.

Another good bait at this time is a slice of fish flesh, usually a strip filleted from the white side of a fluke, although a strip of sea robin fillet is good also. Actually, almost any strip bait works well if it is filleted from a fresh fish and is about five or six inches long, and tapered to a point at one end. Simply hook the wide end once and let the strip flutter enticingly in the current below as you drift. Some strip baits that have worked well for me in the past have come from sundials and bergalls, and one of the largest fluke I ever caught was taken on a strip of bonito off Montauk, a thirteen pound monster that was literally a doormat.

Fluke can also be caught from a stationary position, either from shore or from an anchored boat, but here again, fishing techniques must be altered to meet the situation. Any bait, live or dead, whole fish or strip, should be cast out and retrieved slowly along the bottom. Once again, here you not only impart life-like movement to the bait, but cover greater areas of potentially productive bottom, thus improving your odds. If fishing from a jetty, do not hesitate to retrieve that bait close to the very rocks of the jetty proper, as quite often the fluke are in the deep water close by, feeding on the bait that takes up residence there. If fishing from an anchored boat, try anchoring alongside a channel and make your casts into the channel, retrieving them back across the edges. Here a chum pot will increase your chances; ground-up bunker chum really brings the fluke around, and that slow, steady retrieving gets 'em interested.

Sometimes slow periods can be perked up by trolling slowly, keeping baits on or very close to the bottom. Try trolling with the current first, and then against the current, to establish the better procedure. Some days one style produces best, and other days just the opposite holds true. As in all other types of fishing, you must continuously experiment if you want to score. When all proven methods fail and known techniques don't produce, you gotta try something else. True fishermen are, by nature, experimental beasts anyway, or else we would never learn new productive methods or techniques in the first place.

You can catch fluke with lures also. Bucktail jigs are the oldest lures around and they catch fluke like crazy; just cast one out and retrieve it slowly on the bottom with short skips and hops. A strip of squid or pork rind on the hook seems to produce greater results, as does a fillet of fresh fish flesh. Here you may be pleasantly surprised by fluke striking your lure ferociously; there is none of that shy hesitancy normally exhibited when fishing with bait, and the determined struggle of hooked fluke will cause you to wonder why you ever thought that they were docile fish in the first place.

As in all fishing, you can derive greater sport and enjoyment from fluke fishing if you employ light tackle. I am partial to my Childre Bucktail Stick, a 6' 6'' one-piece graphite rod manufactured by Lew Childre & Sons. This particular rod is light but stiff, offering exceptional sensitivity; it has a fast tip to facilitate casting light lures and a butt powerful enough to succumb almost any fish. Completing this rod is a Shimano Bantam 100 baitcasting reel—ultra-light, compact, and equipped with a smooth, deadly efficient drag. This tiny reel gets filled with eight pound test Ande pink mono, which in my estimation is one of the finest fishing lines available. It is strong with low stretch, thin yet tough, and has great knot strength. With this outfit I can fish bottom with sinkers as light as one-half ounce or cast plugs or lures in the one-quarter ounce range, and have lots of fun doing so. That's what it all comes down to in the long run anyway, having fun while catching fish. Try it yourself sometime. Break out your light tackle and try for some of those fluke on the south shore of Long Island, those fish I call flip-side fluke.

ON THE MARKET:

CONVENTIONAL TACKLE

Part One — *by Al Ristori*

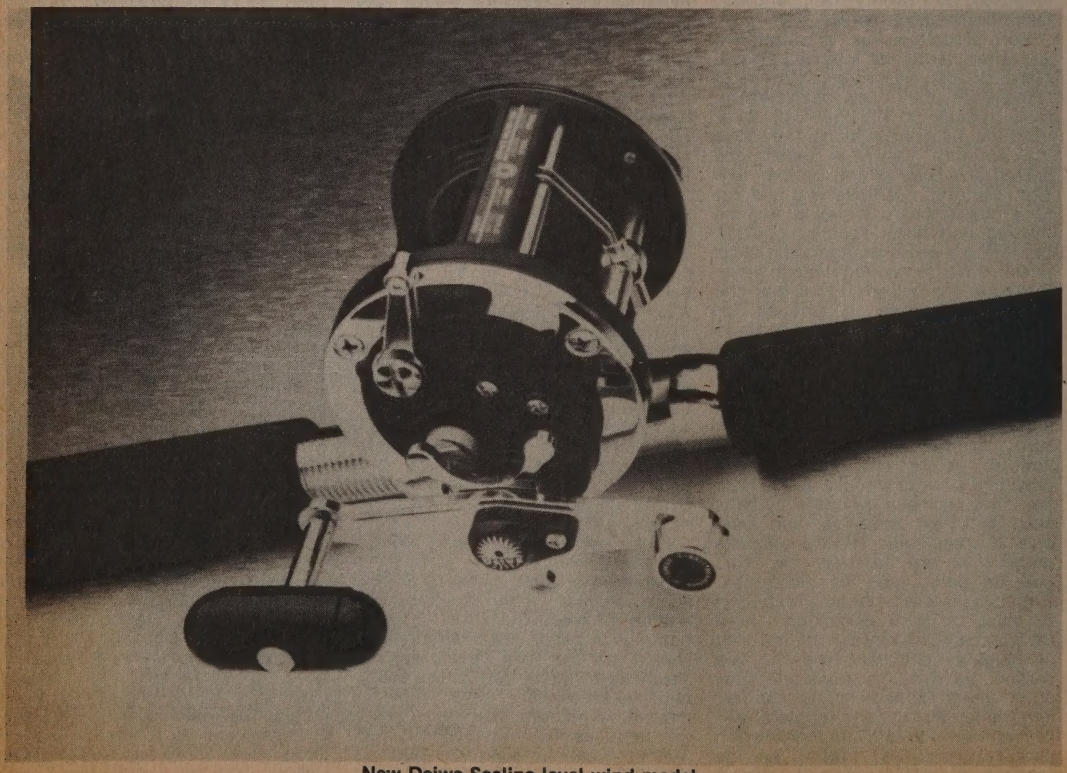
The word "conventional" isn't very descriptive, but it's the best title I've been able to come up with in order to separate the standard star drag, revolving spool reels used for most saltwater trolling and bottom fishing from the small star drag, revolving spool casting reels generally referred to as baitcasters. As previously noted in my article on baitcasting gear, there is no technical difference between conventional and baitcasting reels, but there is a great deal of difference in what they're used for and how much they cost.

One of the real separating factors between conventional and baitcasting reels has been price, but that seems to be changing somewhat. The saltwater fisherman has long been able to buy a perfectly adequate conventional reel that would handle most game fish up to 100 lbs. in weight for about half the price of a suitable baitcaster. That still holds true, though a new generation of fine conventional reels (costing as much, or more, than the best baitcasting models) has made some impact on the market.

The reason that conventional reels are such bargains is that the Penn Reel Company has demonstrated an amazing ability to hold down costs. Their basic models are so relatively inexpensive that no foreign company has been able to touch them. Numerous attempts have been made over the years but, invariably, the competition has soon faded away.

While Penn continues to stand virtually alone in the area of inexpensive quality conventional reels, there is now a good deal of competition in the higher priced areas. The Penn Squidder's domination of the conventional casting market was challenged by the Ambassadeur 7000, 9000 and 10,000 series models some time ago, and many specialists switched over to these much more expensive reels. More recently, Daiwa has made a major move with their fine Sealine reels—which are pitted against the more expensive Penn models, such as the Special Senators. Both Shimano and Newell entered the field with fine casting models retailing in the $100 class last year, and Newell has expanded into larger trolling reels this season.

In the one area of conventional reels where prices have always been high, the angler today has a choice at more realistic price levels. The lever drag reel provides the most ideal drag arrangement presently available. The large braking surface permits fine adjustment over a very wide range, and heat dissipation is excellent. The latter factor usually isn't too significant in small game fishing, as long



New Daiwa Sealine level wind model.

runs against tight drags aren't common. However, when big game fish make such runs on star drag reels, the heat build-up is significant—and water must be poured over the drag area to cool it down.

At one time there was little choice in the lever drag reel field other than the excellent, but very expensive, Fin-Nors. However, the Italian-made Everols are now available at much lower prices, as are the fine Penn Internationals. None of these reels are cheap (you'll probably have to pay over $600 for a 12/0 giant tuna model), but they're well worth the additional investment if you're serious about big game fishing.

The high standards and low price levels created by Penn have resulted in a conventional reel market in which there are practically no poor quality products left. In this age, when foreign products have virtually taken over many product lines, it's encouraging to see an American company doing so well with an entirely American-made product! Stick with a brand name and you can't go far wrong in the conventional reel area. In selecting a model, keep in mind what you'll be using it for. There's no need to spend a great deal of money on a reel intended for use in the bay, or even for a party boat model. However, you can't expect a Penn Baymaster to stand up in school tuna fishing. Very good spools and drags become a critical factor in any form of heavy-duty fishing. Modern anglers favor higher gear ratios, but you should understand that such reels have less power than lower gear ratio models.

Fishermen interested in left-hand reels have a wide selection in the Penn line, but no other company makes such reels. Everything in the Penn Line is available in a left-hand version except the Internationals, Senator IIs, 309M Super Peer King, and 350M Leveline. Few stores stock such models, but they will special order them for you. Naturally, you can expect to pay more for left-hand models because of the costs involved in special ordering.

WHAT'S NEW

Penn is just about standing pat with their present huge line for the 1981 season. However, there has been some change in the low end of the lever-drag International series. The very light models (6, 12 and 12W) have been dropped in favor of the new 12H. The new reel has a 4:1 gear ratio, as opposed to the 3.5:1 on the discontinued models. At 28 ounces, it holds 850 yards of 12 lb. and features four shielded stainless steel ball bearings, plus stainless steel main and pinion gears, spool shaft, and line pin. As is the case with the other Internationals, the side plates and spool of the 12H are gold anodized forged aluminum. The most popular heavy-duty reels in the Penn Line are the very reasonably priced Senators, which range all the way up to a 16/0 size that holds 1000 yards of 130 lb. Dacron. Though the Internationals are a much better choice for big game fishing, I've had no trouble catching giant tuna on 14/0 Senators—including last year's New Jersey State Record 1022 pounder.

The high speed, ball bearing Special Senator series has taken some of the play away from the regular Senators in recent years, and the Senator IIs introduced last year are also getting a piece of the market. The latter are 4/0 and 6/0 (plus a wide spool 113HLW) high speed models with forged anodized aluminum spools. Some wire line trollers and deep water bottom fishermen prefer the Mariner series of narrow spool models that provide both power and a high effective rate of retrieve by increasing the circumference of the spool rapidly as line is taken in. The Long Beach series provides excellent value for those who don't require the sturdiness of a Senator. These reels now feature stainless steel spools. Bay fishermen can also check out the Level Wind, Surfmaster, and Baymaster lines, while conventional surfcasters often choose the Squidders. The Jigmaster has become more popular in recent years due to its 4:1 gear ratio. Plastic spool versions of these reels are great for casting, but won't stand up under rugged fishing conditions unless backed with braided line that will absorb the contraction of monofilament. For most fishing, the stainless steel or anodized aluminum spools are better bets.

Daiwa's relatively new, but very successful Sealine series continues to expand. Two new level wind models have been added this year, the 3.8:1 gear ratio 27H and 47H. Both are good selections for general inshore trolling and bottom fishing, with the 27H holding 230 yards of 14 lb. and the 47H 380 yards of the same line. The HW line of stainless steel spool models (ideal for wire line) has been expanded with the addition of the 350 HW and 450HW. These models hold 280 yards of 40 lb. and 390 yards of 50 lb. respectively.

The Daiwa Sealine series presents a real challenge to the Penn Special Senators. All are virtually corrosion-proof, and the die-cast one piece frames, die-cast aluminum side plates and spools are all hard anodized. The regular Sealine series features eight models from the 30H (220 yards of 25 lb) to the 900H (720 yards of 50 lb.). All feature stainless steel ball bearings at each end of the spool shaft, oversized Duronze drive gear, and right side spool tensioning—leaving the left side plate free from protrusions. Last fall I used sthe 350H (280 yards of 40 lb.) for inshore wire line fishing, and the 450H (340 yards of 50 lb.) for deep water work—and was very impressed with both, particularly with the super-smooth drags.

Shimano's golden Tritons were just introduced last year, but have already made some impact on the market. These two handsome models feature a

(Continued on next page.)

2 reasons why you'll pay more for Maxima Fishing Line

WET LINE BREAK TEST

Brand	Spool Label	Wet Break Strength (#)	Overhand Knot Break Strength (#)
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Trilene XT	10#	12.10	8.53
New Stren	10#	10.80	8.15
Trilene TS	10#	10.72	8.07
Trilene XL	10#	10.60	7.59
Shakespeare 7000	10#	9.84	5.46
Ande	10#	9.37	6.03
Royal Bonnyl	10#	8.75	5.67

COLD WEATHER BREAK TEST
(−15° to +20°F)

Brand	Spool Label	Tensile or Breaking Strength	Overhand Knot Break Strength
Maxima	**10#**	**14.6**	**10.8**
Trilene TS	10#	11.7	9.3
Stren	10#	11.6	9.5

Tests conducted in Berkley Company Laboratories and published in BASSMASTER MAGAZINE, May/June, 1979.

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Public Auction Sale

Under the authority in Internal Revenue Code section 6331, the property described below has been seized for nonpayment of internal revenue taxes due from Richard and Nancy Havens. The property will be sold at public auction as provided by Internal Revenue Code section 6335 and related regulations.

DATE OF SALE: August 4, 1981

TIME OF SALE: 11:00 A.M.

PLACE OF SALE: Carmeroto's Inc. 10 Pennyfield Ave., Bronx, N.Y. 10465

TITLE OFFERED: Only the right, title, and interest of Richard and Nancy Havens in and to the property will be offered for sale. If requested, the Internal Revenue Service will furnish information about possible encumbrances, which may be useful in determining the value of the interest being sold.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY:
1978 NEW YORKER
Twin Mercury 198 HP Engines (gas); Fiberglass Construction; Stand-Up Head; Full Galley; Sleeps 6-8. (MRV 32177038)

Boat Known As: **LAZARUS III**

Coast Guard Documented; Official #609100; Permanent Yacht License #624; Length-32 feet; Beam-12 feet; Depth-6.3 feet; Capacity-16.13 tons

PROPERTY MAY BE INSPECTED AT:
CARMEROTO'S INC.
10 Pennyfield Ave., Bronx, N.Y.
From 10:00 to 11:00 A.M. the day of sale.

PAYMENT TERMS: Deferred Payment as follows 20% down payment and balance within 24 hours.

FORM OF PAYMENT: All payments must be by cash, certified check, cashier's or treasurer's check or by a United States postal, bank, express, or telegraph money order. Make check or money order payable to the Internal Revenue Service.

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one-piece frame and a spool machined from a single piece of high grade aluminum with a stainless steel shaft. Rather than a free spool lever (as used on all conventional reels except for the Ambassadeurs), the Tritons feature a pushbutton spool release which is engaged with a half turn of the handle. This system is a big help in drifting live bait, as you don't have to fumble for a lever when it's time to go into gear and strike. The Mark II weighs 16.2 ounces and holds 330 yards of 20 lb. The narrow spool Mark I weighs 15.2 ounces and carries 250 yards of 20 lb. Both have 4:1 gear ratios. I used the Triton Mark II while catching big bass on live eels last year and was very happy with the smoothness of the drag, as well as the comfortable feel of the reel. As a casting model, it rates with the best.

Carl Newell launched a direct assault on Penn's domination of the conventional reel field last year when he introduced a series of fine casting and trolling models. However, just as is the case with Daiwa, Shimano and Garcia, the Newell effort is directed only at the relatively small, very high quality portion of the Penn line. Suggested lists on the various Newell models are over $100, though it's possible that some may retail at lower prices. For many years, Newell has produced replacement parts for Penn reels which many casters credit with improved casting performance on their basic Penn models. Newell reels are constructed of marine-grade aluminum and stainless steel, with unitized frame base and speed clamps. Stainless steel bearing cups assure smooth spool rotation. All of the many models come in either 4:1 or 5:1 gear ratios. In addition to the nine sizes introduced last year, Newell now has a big game series. The P300 reels are the same as the regular 300s, but beefed up for trolling with double end rings, a stability bar, and a larger power handle. The new 400 series has all of these features plus harness rings. The 440 size (available in "M" for 4:1 gear ratio and "F" for 5:1 gear ratio) holds 400 yards of 40 lb., while the 447 takes 470 yards and the 454 540 yards of the same size line.

Garcia has discontinued most of what was once a substantial line of conventional reels. The Mitchells are now with Browning, and both the Japanese Kingfisher conventionals and the Ambassadeur big game reels have been dropped. All that remains in this field are the very popular 8600, 9000C and 10,000CA casting reels. The latter models are quite expensive, but feature a unique dual speed system in which the normal gear ratio is a fast 4.2:1 that automatically shifts to a 2.5:1 gear ratio for power when sufficient pressure is exerted on the drag. These are outstanding casting reels (favored by many distance casting specialists) which are equipped with stainless steel ball bearings. The 9000C weighs 18.4 ounces and holds 375 yards of 20 lb., while the 10,000C weighs 19.3 ounces and holds 500 yards of 20 lb. on its wide spool. Anglers primarily interested in trolling and bottom fishing (or jigging) will save a lot of money by buying the 8600 Striper. That reel has only the fast 4.2:1 gear ratio and features floating brass bushings instead of the more expensive ball bearings. However, it still has the desirable pushbutton free spool.

Olympic is mounting a challenge to Penn in the moderate price class with the new DS series. The four models (DS 6, 8, 10, and 12) are comparable in size to the popular Penn 109, 209, 140 and 113. The first two are level wind models, while the larger DS 10 and 12 features forged aluminum machine-cut spools and two ball bearings. All of the new DS models feature stainless steel one piece frames. The regular Olympic line is continued, including the DS 3 and 5 trolling reels with the unique digital counters to let you know how much line is out. They also have a rotating twisted guide bar for level winding.

Ryobi is standing pat with their eight model lineup. The AD series features stainless steel in all major components, two ball bearings, and impact-resistant, rust-proof polycarbonate side covers. This series starts with the AD 80 models (320 yards of 30 lb) and goes up to the 9/0 size AD 110EH (400 yards of 80 lb.).

Browning is proud of the fine Mitchell 600 series reels, though the present relatively high price keeps them from being much of a factor in the market. The 624 holds 330 yards of 30 lb. and is distinguished by its white, almost unbreakable Delrin side plates. This reel has stood the test under rugged party boat conditions, even serving as rental gear aboard the "Viking Starship."

The lever drag competition for Penn comes from Fin-Nor and Everol. The Fin-Nors are in their own price class (about $1500 for the 12/0), but have certainly proved their value over the years. The 12/0 features a unique dual gear ratio system. The handle can be shifted to a combination of either 2:1 and powerful 1:1 gear ratios, or 3:1 and 2:1. All reel components are machined from bar stock on a lathe and are of anodized aluminum or stainless steel. Precision ball bearings are featured and each reel is individually registered, with a personally engraved nameplate included. The Golden Regal series (20, 30, and 50) is similar to the standard line, but at lower prices.

Everol is distributed in this area by Moroso Marine Sports, and represented by well-known big game angler Bruce Heitman. These first-quality Italian reels are reasonably priced and feature end plates and spools cut from heavy aluminum alloy forgings, with all other parts of bronze or stainless steel. Retail prices vary from about $272 for the 2½/0 to less than $700 for the 14/0 that will hold 1100 yards of 130 lb. Dacron.

Next week, we'll take a look at what's available in conventional rods.

THE FISHERMAN QUIZ

BY FRED GUARDINEER

(1) **MORE PICKEREL** ARE CAUGHT STILL FISHING WITH LIVE BAIT THAN BY CASTING OR TROLLING

TRUE ☐
FALSE ☐

(2) **HOW LONG** CAN A PORPOISE STAY UNDER WATER BEFORE IT SURFACES TO BLOW AND BREATHE ?

6 MIN. ☐ 12 MIN. ☐ 18 MIN. ☐

ANSWERS AT THE BOTTOM OF THE PAGE.

(4) **THERE ARE** OVER 800 SPECIES OF WORMS SOME OF WHICH ARE KNOWN TO LIVE 10 YEARS ☐ 15 YEARS ☐ 25 YEARS ☐

(3) **TROUT FISHERMEN** SHOULD BE ABLE TO IDENTIFY THESE FLIES. HOW ABOUT YOU ? DRY FLY ☐ TERRESTRIAL ☐ NYMPH ☐ STREAMER ☐

A

B

C

D

(5) **IT'S BETTER** TO HAVE YOUR BOAT SLIGHTLY OVERPOWERED AND RUN THE ENGINE BELOW MAXIMUM SPEED THAN TO UNDERPOWER AND PUSH THE SMALLER ENGINE TO CAPACITY. TRUE ☐ FALSE ☐

(6) **DO SHARKS** HAVE ANY ENEMIES IN THEIR NATURAL ENVIRONMENT, A READER ASKS ?

PORBEAGLE

1-TRUE. IN THE BEST PICKEREL WATERS TROLLING AND CASTING IS IMPOSSIBLE BECAUSE OF SUBMERGED WEEDS. 2 - SIX MINUTES. 3-(A) DRY FLY, (B) TERRESTRIAL, (C) NYMPH, (D) STREAMER. 4-25 YEARS. 5-TRUE. 6 - OTHER SHARKS AND A FEW PARASITES ARE THEIR ONLY NATURAL ENEMIES. HUMANS ARE A *NEW ENEMY* AND THE MOST FORMIDABLE. *OVERFISHING* HAS DECIMATED SHARKS AND NEARLY WIPED OUT THE PORBEAGLES.

Montauk Chopper Roundup

by Bill Ricca

I'd venture to say that from May through November, no other place along our coast can compare with Montauk in its ability to produce fish. This holds true for both inshore as well as offshore fishing. This is evidenced by the numbers of past and present world record fish that have been taken from these waters.

From mid-June until the northeast storms of November drive them south, Montauk is a haven for bluefish. Blues of all sizes, from rats of two pounds to giants of well over 20 lbs., spend their summers and falls here.

An examination of the topography of the region gives the answer as to why such an abundance of fish life is present.

Montauk is located on the Eastern tip of Long Island. In actuality, it is a point of land which stretches 120 miles out into the ocean. Twice a day the tide sweeps past Montauk, filling, then emptying Long Island and Block Island Sounds. Twice a day bait is washed through the various rips, over sandy bottom and through boulder strewn trenches.

Between Montauk Point and Block Island (a distance of about 18 miles) is located a series of underwater peaks, valleys, plateaus, and gullies. It is over these underwater obstructions that bluefish, and at times, weakfish can be found in astounding numbers.

Each year, bluefish reach the waters off Montauk in June. Some of these fish will remain here throughout the summer and fall becoming the number one attraction for the charter fleet. Their winter migration south begins in October, although many fish still remain through November.

Most of the summer and early fall action for blues at Montauk is in the area between the Point and the southwest tip of Block Island. The prime area is known as the Triangle. This is the area between the Midway Buoy, MP Buoy and the Sub Buoy.

Over the last few seasons, the area adjacent to the Sub Buoy has been the most consistent, particularly for diamond jigging. The entire area which encompasses many square miles is usually alive with bluefish and at times weakfish.

Anyone with a graph recorder can usually find fish in this area. Near the Sub Buoy there is a shelf that comes up from 115' to about 31'. Bluefish are usually found here below the vast schools of baitfish which frequent the area. Where there is bait, you will find the blues.

I'd like to mention that during late July and into August vast schools of weakfish move offshore to this area and at times outnumber the bluefish.

The last few years the weaks have been running five to eight pounds with quite a few topping nine and ten pounds. At the same time, the mid-summer blues go from four to seven pounds.

With the arrival of autumn, bluefish (mostly small 2 to 5 lbers.) swarm all around the Point. Their numbers seems to be limitless. I suspect that these are fish down from New England, from where they have spent the summer months.

Most years, the blues have been so numerous during the fall that you could not get a jig down to the bottom in hopes of catching a striped bass without hooking up with a blue.

Last year was an exception to this rule. The small bluefish never really showed inshore under the Lighthouse, and for that matter, neither did the bass. If they did, it was very late in the year when most boats were laid up for the winter.

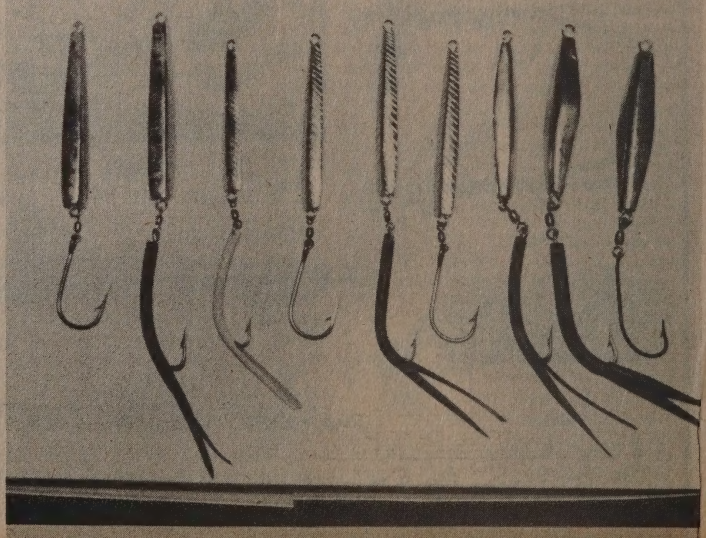
It should be mentioned that the winds last fall (1980) were not very conducive to comfortable days on the water. It seemed to be blowing heavily from the north every weekend. Thus making it rough and at times dangerous to be out there.

The best fall bluefishing was had at the Cartwright Grounds. Action was fast and furious with 12-13 lbers. considered small and 16-18 lbers. not even raising an eyebrow. The gales of October and November drove even these alligators away.

The most productive method in fishing this area was to anchor up and bait up a special bottom rig with a whole frozen herring. This rig consists of a 10 oz. or 12 oz. drail to which a length of sash chain is attached (from 8'' to 14'' long). To this chain is attached either one or two 10/0 long shank fishhooks. The herring is rigged so that its head is right up close to the drail. Special attention should be given so that the herring remains straight and not all curled up.

With a single hook rig you would thread the hook through the eyes of the herring then down along the outside of its body and put the hook into the fish just before the tail.

If you are using a two hook setup, then insert the hook closest to the drail through the eyes of the herring. The second hook would then be set into the area just in front of the



Left to right: TriFin teardrop jigs, TriFin Tiger Stripe jigs and Ava jigs.

herring's tail. After baiting up, just lower this rig to the bottom. Once you hit bottom, come up 5 to 8 turns and wait for a pickup.

Usually, the fish at Cartwright will remain right into December. However, all that was left in November were the blackfish. But what blackfishing we had! But that is material for another article.

Let's get into other types of tackle and bluefishing methods which we employ at Montauk.

Before beginning, let me say that the tackle which I will mention is tackle that I personally use and have found to be adequate for the type of fishing that I do. All my fishing is done from my 20' Outboard. You may have your own preference for a particular type and model rod or reel. If it does the job and puts fish in the boat, great.

Before and during each trip, it is wise to sharpen the hooks on your jigs. Keep a stone available for this purpose.

Experiment with the speed of your retrieve as this could help when the fish are not feeding well and could entice extra strikes.

It is wise to add to your line a three foot length of fifty or sixty lb. mono as a leader. Your line will take a terrific beating from the dentures of these bluefish. So, unless you intend on bringing several dozen jigs every time you go fishing, a word to the wise, etc. This leader should be connected to your main line by means of a black barrel swivel. Your jig is then tied direct to the end of the leader.

The jigs I use are either the Ava, the Tri-Fin Teardrop, or the new Tri-Fin Tiger Finish. In sizes from 2 to 8 oz., I've found the Tiger finish to be a real killer. I guess it's because it reflects more light and thus creates a greater image to the fish. Also, like all Tri-Fin Diamond Jigs, it descends faster and because of its tapered shape it has, in my opinion, a finer action.

As a special attraction, I'll replace the hook on my jig with a surgical tube covered hook. The colors which I have had the greatest success with are green, red and white. At times, the color is very important and again sometimes it's just the fact that you have a tube that catches.

Tubes are necessary when either big bait is available to the blues or when the blues are big themselves.

The first statement is obvious. The tube elongates the jig to match the bait. It is also needed when a large blue hits the jig, there is a good chance he will swallow the jig and cut you off. Since they usually attack from the rear, the tube will be swallowed and not the jig.

The exception to this addition of a tube usually occurs early in the year with the smaller blues. They prefer a small bait and may shun a jig with a tube.

Another trick is to tie on, with the use of a dropper loop, a tube about 2½' to 3' above the jig. This again, can produce very well at times.

Weakfish are often as abundant as the blues at certain times. Alyssa Ricca displays a tiderunner that took a TriFin Tiger Stripe jig.

The size of the jig used will be determined by the size of the bait, the size of the fish you are attempting to catch, the weather and tide conditions and lastly the tackle you are employing. Try to match your tackle to the natural condition present.

Wire line trolling is very popular among the larger private and almost the entire charter fleet at Montauk. Great catches are made using this method of fishing. Physically, it is very taxing to reel in several bluefish at one time on 300' of wire. However, it does put fish in the box. On a charter boat, there are usually six fishermen. Two will fish at a time while the remaining four can rest. This gives you a chance to relax and catch your breath between bouts with these gallant fighting fish.

I try to match my tackle with the size of the bluefish that are available. This is particularly true when I'm diamond jigging. Unless I was out the day before, I usually am not sure as to the size of the blues that are out there. Therefore, I'll bring along two or even three jigging outfits. First, a 6½' to 7' medium light action rod with an Ambassadeur 7000 reel loaded with 15 lb. test line. My second choice is a 7' medium action fast taper stick with a Penn 140M Squidder or Penn 500M Jig Master reel. Either of these would be spooled with 25 lb. test mono. To round out my threesome, I'll bring along an 8' heavy action "meat stick" with either a Squidder or a Penn 3/0 Special Senator with 30 or 40 lb. test.

Each of these outfits serves more than one function. The light outfit can also be used for porgies, fluke or weakfish. The second makes a good weakfish or fluke rod and the heavy outfit is also used for bait fishing at Cartwright.

My personal preference for jigging bluefish is the Penn Squidder 140M. When the spool of this fine quality, durable reel is filled to least 3/4 capacity, you have all the speed you need. The quick take-apart feature is also a plus. You can carry additional spools of line of varying strengths and change your line as conditions vary.

For small boat fishing, I prefer diamond jigging. Basically, this consists of drifting with the engine off. As you drift along, you lower (in this case a diamond jig) your lure to the bottom. The instant it hits bottom, you engage your reel and quickly bring up the jig. If you knew, for instance, that you were in sixty feet of

(Continued on next page.)

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water and the fish were located in the bottom half, then you would only retrieve your jig about halfway up before letting it drop to the bottom once more. If no strikes occurred, repeat this about four or five more times. It still nothing, bring the jig all the way up to make sure your hook is not fouled.

On a smaller private craft, you are not afforded this luxury. With two or three fishermen aboard, there is no rest for the weary. There is no captain to run the boat, no mate to gaff and remove your fish. All this must be done by yourself. Thus, more and more anglers are turning to jigging. In addition, the cost of fuel has a direct relationship on the amount of trolling you plan on doing.

There are times, however, when trolling is necessary, even for the small boat fisherman. This is the case in periods of slack waters when no tide is running and/or when the fish are scattered.

Trolling outfits that I use consist of 30 lb. 6½' trolling rods with Penn 4/0 reels. On occasion, I'll substitute Penn 500M reels. It should be noted that when I use the 500 reels they are equipped with oversized handles. In either case, I spool these reels with 350' of 40 lb. wire.

A word of advice is in order here. Continued use of the 500s with the oversized handles could wear out the drag washers. So, if you intend to do a lot of wire line trolling, possibly consider the 4/0 or a similar reel.

The most popular trolling lure for bluefish is the umbrella rig. There are generally two types: the 4 arm and the 6 arm rig. These are adorned with surgical tubes. The most popular colors are all white, all green, all black or all red. I prefer either all white or white and green or white and red on sunny days and all black or all red on dark overcast days.

I've found that a good trolling speed for my outboard is about 1000-1200 RPMs. This could vary depending on wind and tide conditions. Your boat and motor combination could be different so use this only as a guide.

Bluefish spoil easily, so get them into a cooler or fish box loaded with ice as soon as possible. One word of caution should be given. Give the charter boats plenty of room. They usually work in a set pattern when trolling. Either get into the same pattern or move off and find your own body of fish. More trouble and harsh words are exchanged out there due to someone, usually out of ignorance, cutting across someone's lines.

There are plenty of fish for everyone and plenty of room to fish. When approaching an area where there is a concentration of boats, stop a second, determine if they are jigging or trolling. Then figure out how you can maneuver your craft to get in on the action without screwing things up for the other guy.

From June to November, Montauk is tough to beat for bluefish action.

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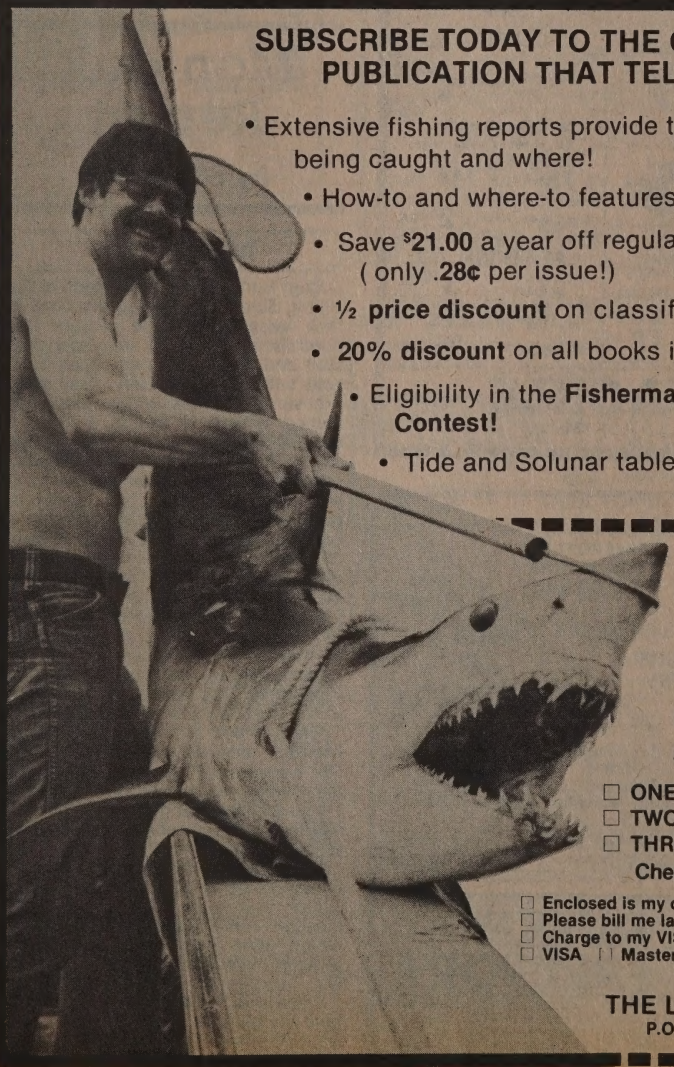

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DETAILS OF RECORD STRIPED BASS CATCH

At approximately 3:30 a.m. on Friday, July 17th, hard fishing Bob Rochetta of East Setauket, lived the dream that thousands of striper fanatics have been rehearsing for years. Drifting a live eel at Great Eastern from his 24' skiff, Rainbow II, the Suffolk County police officer boated the largest striper ever taken on rod and reel. When officially weighed at Carl Darenberg's Montauk Marine Basin a few hours later, the huge bass registered an unbelievable 76 lbs.!

according to Carl Darenberg, Jr., who supplied the details of the catch, the fish measured 57" long and had a girth of 35½ inches. The East Setauket angler was accompanied by 13-yr.-old Ed Tirpack who managed a 35 lb. striper of his own.

Bob's tackle included an Ambassadeur 8600 reel loaded with 40 lb. test Ande mono.

The crucial moment in the 15 minutes battle came as the fish was being lifted aboard and the gaff broke under the strain of the fish's bulk. Rochetta resorted to his hands to slide the monster over the gunnel.

The catch, if all goes well with IGFA processing, will displace Edward Kirker's 72 lb. fish taken in 1969 off of Cuttyhunk Island as well as Charlie Church's "unofficial" 73 lb. record.

Worth noting is that the fish was taken under a full moon and shortly after a partial lunar eclipse as well.

A couple of other giant stripers fell to Long Island anglers the same night. Dennis Kelly of Sag Harbor boated a 66 lber. in the Sluiceway while Ed Carrillo of Massapequa boated a 63 lber. at Montauk. Fred Golofaro.

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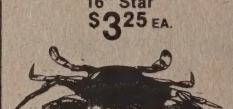

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Montauk Report

by Stu Miller

MONTAUK

Capt Buddy Dorman formerly of the Viking Skipper II, having disposed of that vessel over the winter has purchased a new 30' all fiberglass boat and is now running as an open boat with a 6 man limit, first come first serve. The boat which Buddy has named **Waxed** is sailing 5:45 a.m. daily from Christman's dock, same slip he had his previous boat. Buddy sailed this weekend, fishing the Point and tells us that he had plenty of porgies with some flounders and a few sea bass mixed in. Porgies went to over 3 lbs. and his fares had no difficulty filling 1 or more buckets. He's been working the rips off the Lighthouse and says he can now put 6 men onto fish that he previously put 80 men on his prior boat. Again, no reservations are accepted so if you are interested, Bud advises that you get to the boat as early as possible.

Capt Mike of the charter boat **Montauk** tells of good offshore fishing last week with 3 medium size makos and 2 white marlin raised and boated. He says there are still plenty of blue sharks and brown sharks around and a good showing of school tuna.

Capt Zac of the **Mako Express** on Friday sailed B W Ruf, Berney Ruf, Chuck Ruf, Jim Ricci and John Keegan with Chuck landing a 127 lb. mako, John a 93 lb. mako which jumped twice. All were from Fishkill NY.

Capt Joe McBride on the charter boat **My Mate** on Saturday fished Jess Murray and Frank Masgroputro taking 75 ocean blues on umbrellas.

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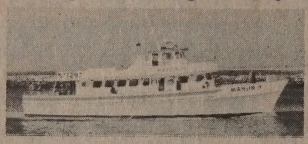

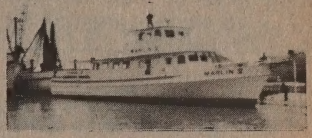

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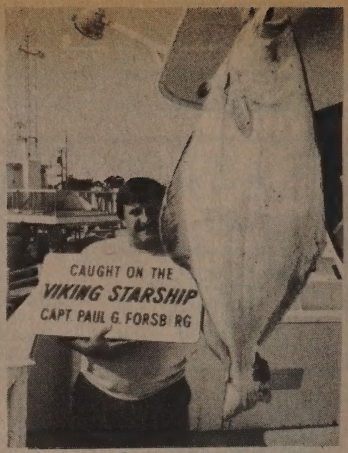

A recent Georges Bank trip by the "Viking Starship" produced this impressive looking 44 lb. halibut for Ron Madonia of Staten Island.

Sunday's trip scored with 3 blue sharks and 1 brown fishing south of the Point. Joe sailed in the Hampton Bays shark tournament Wed. and landed a small mako on Gene Kelly's charter boat **Kellyboat**. Joe says he has some openings for this week. See ad for details.

Capt Wayne King of the charter boat **King Wayne** reports very good shark fishing for Tuesday, Friday and Sunday's charters. Friday's mako shark weighed in at 174 lbs. Wayne says the bluefishing continues excellent off the Point and off Block Island with fish up to 18 lbs. on diamond jigs or umbrellas.

Capt Phil of the charter boat **Adios** reports excellent bluefish activity SE of the Light for diamond jiggers or trollers. Brooklyn angler Nick Stavriodes wanted weakfish and proceeded to diamond jig 30 of them along with some blues off the Point. A 145 lb. mako became the prize for Ken Bowman of Kew Gardens on an offshore charter. Sharking has been slow but white marlin have now showed up.

Capt Jerry McGrath of the charter boat **Nostalgia II** called to report that on Thursday Arthur Stiro and buddy Matt had fair fishing for blues and weaks off the Point. Saturday's charter for Tim Wood went offshore and landed 2 brown sharks of about 75 lbs. each. The offshore fishing is picky due to fluctuating water temps. There was some excitement chasing a blue marlin 20 miles out, but no hook up.

Capt Paul D'Angelo on the charter boat **Dianie I** sailed Mr. & Mrs. Gasman on Saturday to the Dumping Grounds and had 2 makos, 2 browns and a dusky. They also spotted numerous white marlin. Sunday's trip for the Steve Lanefski party had 3 makos, 2 browns and a blue shark. One of the makos hit 231 lbs.

Gone Fishing Marina reports very

good fluking this week at Colodon, with the rental boats scoring with fluke to 4 lbs. Can 5 near the Point has also been producing on spearing and sandeels, both tides. Porgies have been holding up at Great Eastern, fish up to 4 lbs. A commercial handliner had 300 and 400 lbs. on Saturday and Sunday. Weaks and blues are being jigged from Midway to the Sub buoy over the weekend. Some excellent striper catches were made on the weekend on live eels in the area of Great Eastern. Billy Collins caught them to 40 lbs. and Bob Szytorc to 35 lbs.

Of course the dynamite story out of Montauk this week has been the world's record 76 lb. striper taken on live eel at Great Eastern by Suffolk County Marine Policeman Bob Rocchetta. A full account and details appear elsewhere in this issue. Congratulations Bob, on this super catch.

Capt Paul Forsberg of the **Viking Fleet** reports that the cod fishing remains excellent at Cox's Ledge on bait with fish 8 to 16 lbs. with hangers taking the pools. Bluefishing remains very good at Cartwright with normal alligator type fish in abundance except for Sunday night's trip. Fluking remains good in the rips off the Point on big strip baits while porgy fishing has been hot and cold off the Point.

South Shore Report

by Fred Golofaro

HAMPTON BAYS

John at **Corr's Fishing Station** said fluking was very much improved with two shorts being taken for every keeper. Biggest fish weighed in this week was a 7 lb. doormat. Combo baits of sand eels and squid or spearing and squid have both been very effective with the best scores coming from the west cut during incoming water. John noted that some bass and small blues are also being taken at the inlet.

MORICHES BAY

John at **Seatuck Cove Fishing Station** in Eastport labeled the weekend as decent. Overall, he said most boats returned from the buoy 41 and 43 area with 10 to 15 keepers each. Two out of three of the flatfish are keepers. On Saturday, Al Eiskamp, Frank Stellaccio and Walt Heitmann, all of Queens, returned to the station with 20 fluke, 18 blue claw crabs and 3 blues taken south of buoy 41. They used spearing and squid combos for their fluking. John noted that crabs are now well established in the area.

Jim at **Skidmore's Fishing Station** said fluking continues excellent at buoys 41 and 42. Best scores are made on incoming water with combo baits of squid and sand eels and spearing and sand eels being very effective. On Saturday, Nick Mancini and John and Matt Viol returned to the station with 41 keepers taken at 41 and 42. Keeper to short ratio is now 50-50 with catches per boat averaging in the 20-25 fish range. A good sprinkling of small blues on the fluke grounds with a few being taken on fluke baits but most being taken on small metal lures. Crabs now in good supply, with boats averaging 2 to 3 dozen blue claws apiece on killie rings and bunker.

Gary at **Silly Lily Fishing Station** said fluking continued good this past week with most boats averaging 15 keepers a trip. Biggest fish of the week was a shade under 5 lbs. It was taken by a Jerry Baumeister. Dave Levine, along with Joe and ernest Uma, managed 30 keepers on Saturday. Most of the action has been between buoys 39 and 42 on sand eels or spearing and squid.

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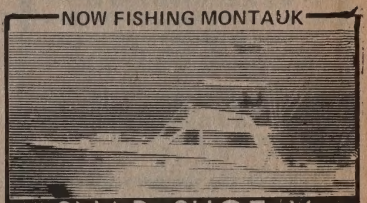
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MASTIC BEACH

From **Stiriz Fishing Station** Bill reported a tremendous number of blue claw crabs have settled into the area as of last week. Catches of a bushel per boat have been the rule rather than the exception. They are being taken from the bridge to buoy 17 on rings and in traps. Some nice fluking occurred Thursday, Friday and Saturday with fish up to 7½ lbs. taken between buoys 20 and 27. Some boats managed as many as 15 to 20 keepers during the three days. Small blues south of buoy 20 on the first part of incoming water. Both tins and plugs have been effective on the little choppers.

SAYVILLE

Fred at **Formato's Fishing Station** reported weaks in the 2-3 lb. range with an occasional 4 lber. being taken at buoys 4 and 5 off of Heckscher on squid and jelly worm combos and on hi-lo rigs with squid strips. Some nice catches of fluke being made in the Ocean Beach area, with some smaller flatfish mixed with the weaks in the buoy 4 vicinity. Small blues have been showing on top along the east line where they can be caught on plugs or tins.

WEST SAYVILLE

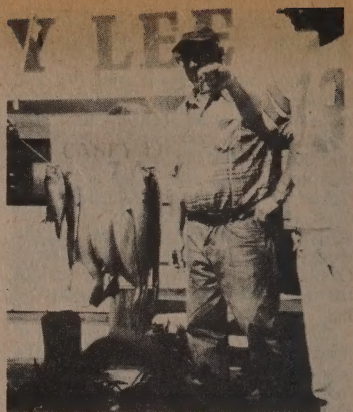
Word from the **South Bay Fishing Station** was of good fluking around buoys 15 to 17 using sand eel and squid combos. Sea bass spread through this area also and some small weakfish now being taken behind the clam dredges about a mile off of West Sayville. Small bluefish scattered throughout the bay.

OAKDALE

Dave at **J&R Sports Center** said that lots of small blues roamed the inlet this past week. Fluke continue in very good supply with a few more keepers showing up in catches. Still a lot of shorts, however. Dave knew of a few small bass trolled near the lighthouse and the Kismet Reef on umbrella rigs and noted that some weaks in the 6-8 lb. class are being taken in the Ocean Beach area. Lots of reports of tuna and sharks from the offshore clan as calm seas and clear weather has enabled plenty of boatmen to make the run offshore. Decent crabbing at the Great River dock and plenty of snappers around although most are still too small for catching. For freshwater fans, Ed DeRosa checked in a 3 lb. rainbow which he took out of the Connetquot River. Dave added that a decent number of 14" to 16" trout are now coming out of Bubbles Falls.

EAST ISLIP

Mike at **Peppy's Bait and Tackle** knew that Tim Shea trolled a 12 lb. striper on an umbrella rig over the weekend. Plenty of small blues come and go around the inlet area with trollers, casters and jiggers all getting a piece of the action when the fish show. A lot of fluke at the inlet, the Robert Moses Bridge, Coast Guard Station, the lighthouse and West Island although quite a few are still undersized.



Ed Van Houten with 8 nice fluke and 2 sea bass taken on the Bay Shore open boat, "Casey Lee."

BAY SHORE

Carl at **Smokey's Bait and Tackle** reported a catch of 50 keeper fluke up to 2¾ lbs. for Al Colban and Ann and Howie Gruber aboard the An-How. The catch was made on Friday near the Coast Guard Station with sand eel and squid and killies taking the fish. During the week, the Wonoski family fished the inlet area to take 30 fluke to 4 lbs. On Saturday, Walt Appelle and Rory Joltin trolled red umbrella rigs near the Robert Moses bridge and put 18 weaks, 6 blues and 5 school bass in the box. Carl added there are plenty of blues at the inlet for umbrella rig trollers with a few bass and weaks mixed in. Some kingfish on squid strips at Ocean Beach. Bluefishing on the Patchogue Grounds has been hot and cold with most boats mixing their time between there and southwest of the inlet in 90' of water. Snapper fishing improves each day and loads of crabs at the docks and for jackers at night.

Captain Neil Delanoy of the open boat **Casey Lee** labelled the fluking as very good with consistent action all week long. High hook each trip has been in the teens with most fares averaging 5 to 7 keepers. Size of the fish continues to improve with a good number of fish in the 2-4 lb. range. The skipper has been working the areas around West and East Islands using spearing or sand eel and squid combos. The boat has a new leader in its Fishing For Life contest. On Wednesday Bill Stone brought a 6.10 fluke aboard. He had 14 other keepers as well.

CAPTREE

Captain Roy of the charter boat **Blue Albatross II** said the bluefishing on the Patchogue grounds has been erratic. He has been spending time southwest of the inlet as well as on the Outer Banks grounds and has found better results trolling with umbrella rigs than with jigs and chum. This should change one the fish settle down. Most of the blues have been in the 5-10 lb. range. Fluking continues good with an improvement in the number of keepers. On Saturday fishing a group from the Tulip Cafe Tightliners, the skipper worked the area from the bridge to the State Channel where individuals averaged 8-10 keepers apiece. Captain Roy noted that the best fluking has been on incoming water.

Captain Gordon Roman of the open boat **Captree Queen** said fluking continues good with Friday being possibly the best day of the year. Nearly 400 keepers came aboard with most in the 1¼ to 2 lb. class but with some to 4 lbs. being taken. Best action has been from West Island to the lighthouse. An occasional small bluefish is taken on the fluke baits. Of the bluefishing, the skipper labelled it as hot and cold with one out of every two trips resulting in a good catch. Action has been scattered between the Patchogue Grounds, 3 Sisters wreck and 17 Fathoms. Saturday night's trip at the latter location was very good with 2 groups of fish keeping anglers busy. One school consisted of 1-3 lbers., while later in the night a school of 7-12 lb. fish moved in on the action. Friday was very slow while Sunday's bluefishing witnessed about 100 choppers taken.

The charter boat **Lady Ann** reported a catch of more than 200 keepers between West and East Island for a fluke charter on Saturday. A day bluefish trip on Sunday was labelled as picky with fishing being done southwest of the inlet. Most night bluefish trips have seen catches range anywhere from 40 to 80 blues. Plenty of fish on the Patchogue grounds but they haven't yet settled in and it's tough to do a good job on them.

The open boat **Capt. Rod** reports fluking has been good from Kismet to the inlet. Captain Rod noted that a good portion of the fish are keepers with all the usual baits being effective. A few nice fish are now mixed with the smaller flatfish and the pool is usually in the 4 lb. class. Best action has been on the flood tide.

Captain Jim Gillen of the open boat **Capt. Gillen** reported they have a good fluke season under way with about 75% of the fish being taken now keepers. Most of the best action has been from West Island to the bridge and on down to the old dock. The skipper labelled Saturday's 6AM trip as the best of the weekend and called the 11AM trip good. Action slumped on the 4PM trip but was back up to par on Sunday's early morning run.

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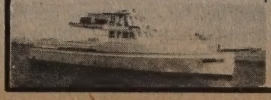

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Every now and then, a weakfish in the 5-8 lb. range picks up a bait as does an occasional small blue. The most effective bait has been killie and fluke belly combo.

Captain Ron of the charter boat **Yankee III** reported a good day of fluking on Saturday for a group of Kingston, N.Y. firemen. Of 250 fish taken, approximately 100 were keepers. It appears that the best action has moved from the inlet back between the lighthouse and ocean beach. Of the bluefishing a Saturday night charter with 15 anglers aboard resulted in 30 blues in the 8 lb. class taken on the Patchogue grounds.

The infamous G. Korn fishing aboard the **Speedy VI** on Saturday with co worker Joe Belcastro. On this bluefish jigging trip, on one retrieve after 12 turns off the bottom, Korn relates that the reel stopped, the rod arched and he though he was hooked on something when suddenly he received two tremendous whacks and whatever it was headed for the bottom. After numerous short fast runoffs between which the infamous one retrieved some line, there ensued a 45 minute battle, with pal Joe having to take over the rod after a half hour. Fishing a 3/0 reel and 30 lb. test a bluefin tuna estimated at around 100 lbs. was brought up to the boat and it was about to have 3 gaffs plunged in when the fish suddenly snapped the line. A real heartbreaker, but true nonetheless. Crying towels can be sent to G. Korn c/o LIF.

BABYLON

Captain Jack Stoddard of the **Luci II** has been fluking in the State Channel between the Babylon cut and Gilgo. About 50% of the fish being taken are keepers averaging 2 lbs. with the largest of the week being a 4 lber. Sand eels and squid combos were very effective during Saturday's charter. A Sunday shark trip resulted in a 50 lb. mako taken with the combined efforts of 13-yr.-old Eric Robinson and 8 yr. old Fred Galante. Fishing was done in 130' of water S.E. of Fire Island. The party also trolled 2 dozen blues up to 8 lbs. The skipper noted that he is available for night bluefish charters.

ralph at **Augie's Bait and Tackle** reported another very good weekend of offshore fishing. Steve Golder aboard the Obsession accounted for a

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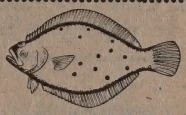

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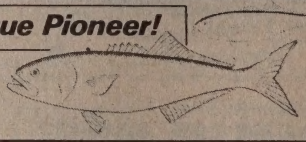

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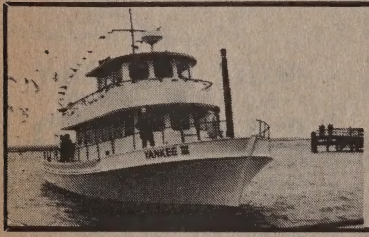
7 A.M. DAILY • 7 P.M. DAILY



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bigeye tuna of 187 and 210 lbs. A 50 lb. white marlin was taken aboard the Jen-S while a 232 lb. bigeye made the day for the crew aboard the Jo Lynn. On Saturday Ralph fishing aboard Dick Orlandi's 3 Sons,put away a load of yellowfin tuna in the 50-80 lb. class along with 3 bluefins in the 75 lb. range.They also had a small blue marlin. All the action was on green machines in 180' of water. In the Bay, a good run of fluke from Kismet to the Robert Moses bridge. Plenty of small blues around the inlet for trollers, while bigger fish have been hot and cold on the Patchogue grounds.

LINDENHURST

From **Lindenhurst Bait & tackle**, Mike described the fluking at the inlet, West channel, the lighthouse and Snake Hill Channel as good. Killie, sand eels and squid have all been effective. Boatmen drifting sand worms at night under the Wantagh bridges have been scoring with a few nice weakfish. Offshore, some makos and plenty of blue sharks from 110' on out. In the Canyon, bigeye and yellowfin tuna along with plenty of long finned albacore and a few marlin have been keeping everyone busy. From the local docks, plenty of eels nd decent crabbing and snapper fishing with a noted improvement in the size of both of these summertime favorites.

AMITYVILLE

Maria at **George Combs Bait and Tackle** told of weighing in a 34 lb. striper Sunday morning. Taken on clam chum in the state channel, Maira knew only that the anglers name was Bob. Plenty of blues down at the inlet for casters and trollers, while to the west some nice fluke and weaks being taken around the 2nd Wantagh bridge. For offshore fans, good sharking anywhere from 130' of water on out to 150'.

SEAFORD

At **Captain Andy's Fishing Station** Art Wright spoke of a catch of 16 fluke up to 4½ lbs. made between the 2nd and 3rd bridges by Don Geraci. On the average, most boats managed 5-10 keepers. Small blues being taken around the 3rd Wantagh and lots of small snappers in the canal. Blues in the 8-12 lb. class were chummed and trolled on both Saturday and Sunday out at the Cholera. Art asked us to remind customers that with the increased interest in crabbing and snapper fishing, the marina and bait store will be open each night until 8PM.

Marie at **Wanser's Bait and Tackle** in Seaford said fluke have shown an improvement in size this past week. Best fishing at Squaw Island, West Island, in Goose Creek, Massapequa Cove and at the 2nd Bridge. On Saturday, one of the shop's regular customers totalled 40 fluke and

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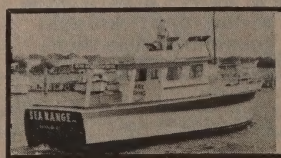

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managed to cull 17 keepers out of the batch. On Friday, another customer weighed in a doormat of 8 lbs. 2 oz. taken in Merrick Bay. A decent showing of weakfish along with a few small bass in Haunts Creek with 007 jigs and white tube combos accounting for the best action. Some school bass ripe for trolled umbrella rigs in the State Channel. Lots of yellowfin tuna being trolled in the vicinity of the NOAA buoy and plenty of crabs and snappers in the local creeks.

John at **Pop's Fishing Station** spoke of fluke, small blues, weaks, sea bass and crabs combining to keep customers happy in his area. He labelled the fluking real good as demonstrated by the catch made by Pete Roberts and Joe Gaspare and his son. The trio kept 23 of the 29 fluke they landed fishing near Squaw Island with killie and squid combos. This was on Sunday. On Saturday, Dan Foy returned with a nice mixed bag of blues, weaks and fluke taken near the entrance to Zachs Bay. As for crabs, Bud Dennis and Hank McGovern returned with 80 blue claws taken on killie rings in the Amity Cut on Sunday. John added that State Conservation officers have been checking regularly for short fluke, so everyone had better heed the 14'' minimum size limit.

Captain Brian of the open boat **Chinco** labelled the fluking as decent through the week, with catches ranging 4-12 keepers per man. Lots of shorts still in the area but the pool fish each day runs 3½ to 5 lbs. On Saturday, Steve Kearney took an 8.5 lb. doormat on a squid and killie combo west of the 2nd bridge. The skipper has been putting in most of his time between the 1st and 2nd bridges and throughout the Merrick area. He noted too that killies seem to account for the larger fish while the last of the ebb has witnessed the best action.

MERRICK

Jimmy at **Nicks Fishing Station** reported it's pretty much the same story with lots of short fluke around but enough keepers to make it worthwhile. Scene of some of the best action has been Merrick Point, Haunts Creek and off of the golf course. On Saturday both the Pelican and the Oceanic loaded up with blues in the 5-7 lb. class fishing in 70' of water, 150° out of Jones Inlet. They trolled umbrella rigs. Out at the Texas Tower plenty of yellowfins in the 60-80 lb. class continue to keep the offshore boys busy.

New York Bight Report

by Stu Miller

FREEPORT

Freeport Boatmen's Association reports that the **Super Spray II** continues to have good fluke catches on their 2 a day trips with some of the week's pools going from 4½ to 6 lbs. The heavy scattering of throwbacks is still around however. The **Super Spray's** night bluefishing trips have been at the NB buoy, Three Sisters and the Mud Hole and the fish are running 10 to 12 lbs. Weekday nights are the best nights to come down when there is plenty of elbow room. Fishing 20 miles south of the Tower Asociation charter boats have had a 50 lb. bluefin tuna and a 70 lb. yellowfin. They are also loading up on blues south of Cholera and at the channels. Friday night's trip at Cholera saw fish of 10 to 12 lbs. chummed and baited and some bonito showing up. Bob says it looks like a great season with the water offshore being extremely clean and lots of offshore action for customers. Several other Association boats have been wirelining bluefish close into the beach with good scores. Lots of blue shark being found in the HA area.

The **Capt Bill** tells of good fluking Monday through Thursday but tougher Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Jone's Inlet produced decently early in the week but the weekend boat traffic slowed things up. Action off the beach and in the back bays should pick up again with the departure of the recent very hot weather.

The **Capt Al** tells of an excellent Monday's bluefishing at Three Sisters catches averaging 20 to 30 blues a man. Jerry Krystel of Munsy NY had 22 blues. Tuesday he returned and had only 4 fish—that's how hot and cold the bluefishing is running. The fish are moving around quite a bit and have not settled down yet. Wednesday's catch was very good off Long Branch while Thursday in the same area was a tough day. It's jigging during the day and bait at night. Saturday saw a 2 hour slaughter at the Sisters and at 17 Fathoms. Forty blues jammed the burlap bag of Roosevelt Rogers while buddy Ralph Martinez of the Bronx decked 35 blues. Santos Rossa had 22 choppers. Sunday's catch was half the volume of Saturday's catch, fish in the 2 to 10 lb. range all week.

Capt Richie of the **Starstream II** reports the bluefishing very good one day then so-so the next, better known as the old hots and colds. The fish are definitely around says the skipper in the 1 to 8 lbs. range with occasional weaks, bonito and striped bass. Even

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the night trips are unpredictable and sometimes the fish are hitting stronger in the morning and sometimes stronger in the afternoon. Richie says the overall fishing is good jigging days and bait and chum nights. The action is at Three Sisters, 17 Fathoms, Sea Bright, Sandy Hook channels and Ambrose. Best bet is to come on the weekday night trips when the crowds are lighter.

The **Aloma II** reports a very good Sunday's fluking in the early morning hours with keepers running from 1½ to 4 lbs. and anywhere from 8 to 25 keepers per a.m. drift in the Inlet on sandeels, squid and fish belly. Night bluefishing trips have been erratic with good catches some nights and poor catches other nights on chum and bait.

Charter boat **Psyche's Twist III** reports that Friday's charter for Anthony of Ozone Park scored with a 60 lb. dusky and a 15 lb. bluefish. They also had a hammerhead in the slick fishing 150 degrees out of Jone's in 130' of water. Saturday's charter for Shellbank Anglers of Howard Beach fished the same spot and they had 2 small duskies. Then with Sam Sterlacci on the rod, they hooked and landed a 127 lb. mako which tied down 3rd place in the Mako Marina Invitational Shark Tournament.

Charter boat **Nan-Sea** called and reported that Saturday's charter fishing 150 degrees out of Jone's in 145' of water bagged 2 yellowfin tuna of 46 and 53 lbs. Sunday's trip fishing the HA had slow sharking but they had 2 yellowfin, 1 of which was dropped, and the other ended up hitting the scales at 64 lbs. They had a marlin up 3 times on blue and white feathers but couldn't get him to hit.

Capt Joe Long of the charter boat **Nite Owl** on Saturday fished Stan (Lucky) Levine and group. They were entered in the Mako Marina Shark Tournament and nailed 1st place with a 269 lb. mako which jumpted thrice and took the $1,665 1st prize. Lucky was on the rod and the catch was made 40 miles south of the Inlet. On the way out they had trolled a 70 lb. yellowfin tuna. Sunday's charter for Bert Lily and party trolled up 13 skippies to 10 lbs. They also had a 149 lb. yellowfin tuna which took 45 minutes to land. On the rod was the NYS Commissioner of Motor Vehicles. The fish was caught on a homemade leadhead 55 miles off the beach.

Capt Walt Scott's **Freeport Charter Service Acme II** reports a bluefish slaughter of 10 to 12 pounders on bait and chum for Ed Maxner's group from Jackson Heights, fishing SE of the NB. A charter for Ray Santos and group from IBM did some serious business on blues south of Ambrose on chum and bait for alligators up to 15 lbs. A trip for John McDuonoughs group picked a way at 8 to 10 lb. blues south of the Tower that petered out in the late morning. Steve Carey's group from Peekskill hit the jackpot with a chum blitz in the early hours with bait

and chum doing the trick, fish 8 to 10 lbs. Walt says he has some choice weekdays open for the remainder of the season and he plans to chum and bait bluefish locally.

Capt Ron of the charter boat **Northstar** called to say that Saturday's charter from the Rock and Roll Rod and Gun Club had a fair catch of fluke working Jone's Inlet on a flooding tide with most fish keepers. Sunday's group led by Jeff Zaslow had a good catch of blues from 4 to 8 lbs. with a few up to 12 lbs. around the Sisters.

The **Capt Gary** reports Saturday's trip for Pat Middleton and group had a fair pick on blues, 4 to 5 pounders at Ambrose Channel. Sunday's charter for the Village of Island Park found a lot of short fluke in Jone's Inlet, Reynold's and the Golf Course but managed to pick some keepers also. Hi hook and pool winner was Jennifer Stern with a 4 lb. fluke.

Hudson Point Fishing Station reports Capt Joe Trapp on his boat Phyllis T fishing SE of the HA with Jay York on the rod had a 146 lb. mako on a whole bluefish. On the boat Pop's Toy fishing Hudson Canyon 4 yellowfin tuna going 60, 70 and 110 lbs. were caught along with 8 albies from 25 to 30 lbs. plus some blue marlin were spotted. Ken Tronti on his boat Kendoo II had makos of 110 and 240 lbs. fishing 150' of water 35 miles SE of Jone's. The Shannon II scored with a 218 lb. mako fishing in 135' of water, 150 degrees out of Jone's. Blues have been very good in 50' of water SE of the Inlet for trollers and jiggers. Weakfish are hitting sand worms fished on a 3x3 rig at the Meadowbrook and Wantagh bridges on the last of the flood down half-way on the ebb. Decent flounder catches being made at the Meadowbrook, the Coast Guard Station and in the holes at Swift Creek.

Capt Bill of the charter boat **Ivory Queen** called to say that Saturday's trip for Bob Nardelli had 46 blues up to 7 lbs. trolling in the morning and baiting in the afternoon. Sunday's trip for Bob Sanders and party of the M&S Window Shop, Brooklyn, boated 38 blues trolling and chumming SW of Jone's in 80' of water. Bill says that Greg Sanders had a 3/0 with 40 lb. test line stripped by what must have been a good sized tuna.

The **Capt Lou Fleet** reported decent fluking all week long with keepers getting larger. Thursday saw Bob Spanpinato of Jamiaca Estates hoist a 7 lb. fluke on the morning half-day trip. Some of the best fluking of the week was Tuesday off Playland with a scattering of bonito. On Sunday morning 150 keeper fluke were taken on the 2nd drift.

The **Blue Fin Fleet** reports the bluefishing has been erratic but they had them Monday through Friday with Friday's and Saturday's catches being very good from 150 to 200 blues on each of these 2 trips, fish 2 to 4 lbs. on jigs. The **BF II** fluked locally Sunday and totaled nearly 100 keeper

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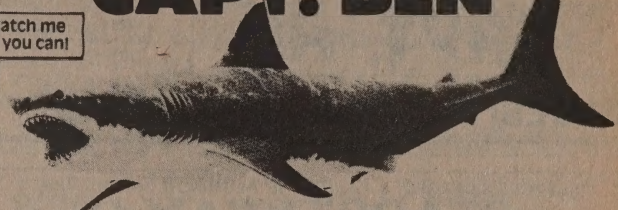
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fluke for 32 people on spearing and fish strips. Monday's pool went to Ed Widenski of Garden City with a 12 pounder on chum and bait at Cholera. Friday's hi hook was 24 blues for Gus Ekland, Freeport, on the **BF II**. Friday's hi hook on the **BF III** ws 23 blues for Tom Bryne of Hastings-on-Hudson from Chase Bank. Saturday night's trip with Capt John Kozeeluh at the wheel, saw a good catch of blues between the Sisters and the BA on bait and chum.

Larry Izzo at **Mako Marina** reports that the Mako Marina Shark Tournament held Saturday had 37 boats participating. 1st place went to Joe Long on the charter boat **Nite Owl** with a 269 lb. mako taken south of the HA for a $1,665 cash 1st prize. 2nd place went to Randy Brlandson on the Thunder Reef with a 228 lb. blue shark for a cash prize of $693. 3rd place and $416 in prize money went to Joe Fanora on the charter boat **Psyche's Twist III** with a 127 lb. mako. Larry thanks all participants. Tuna was caught offshore by the **Apus I & II**, a 57 lb. yellowfin and several duskies that were tagged and released just shy of the Texas Tower.

BALDWIN

Jack at **Arthur Street Fishing Station** reports 8 lb. class weakfish from the Tin Can and the Pt. Lookout jetty being brought in with jigged bait tails working best at the Can and live bunker working best in the jetty areas. 6 to 8 lb. blues being jigged at the Tin Can and at Cholera and also 8 miles south of Cholera for wireliners. Five yellowfin tuna were trolled up at the HA on the boat Hardhat for Tom and Vinnie. Fluke has been spotty but some keepers being brought in. Try the 40' hole at Boces as did Tony in his 13' Boston Whaler. He found a 1/3 keeper ratio there. Swift Creek has also produced fluke to 2 lbs.

POINT LOOKOUT

Charter boat **Marie III** reports Friday's trip for Mr. Gallagher and party fishing south of Long Branch for blues had 2 to 5 pounders trolled up plus a few 8 pounders on umbrellas. Later in the day they trolled up 1 to 2 pounders around the channels. Saturday's charter had a 60 percent keeper ratio of fluke in Jone's Inlet and in Reynold's between buoy 20 and Garrett's Lead. The keeper ratio in the creeks went down to 15 percent. Best catches on spearing and squid. Sunday's trip for Center Fishing Club had an excellent bluefish catch at Sandy Hook Channel on Ava 27s. George Schmidt and Pete Casey were both in the high 40s of fish from 1 to 6 lbs. Average catch was 15 fish. The boat has a couple of Friday nights and weekdays still available in August.

Marilyn at **Ed's Fishing Station** reports that there has been an improvement in the size of fluke but there is still lots of short fish. Phil Ophoff and 3 children from Ridgewood worked the flats for 25 keepers on killie and squid Saturday on incoming and the turn of the tide. Thirty fluke of keeper size was the reward for Steve and Denise Zukerbrot working the flats also on the early

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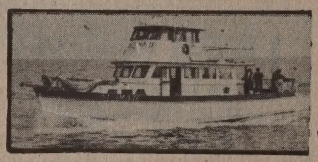

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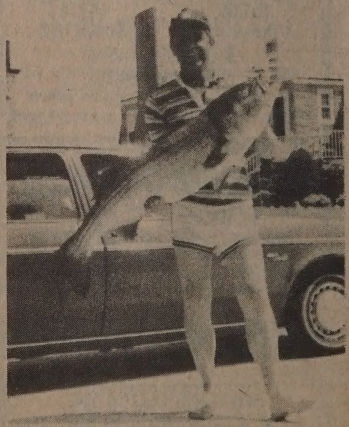
part of Saturday. Tony Capmosino on the boat Aplast II bagged a 300 lb. mako Saturday at SE Grounds. Some flounders were caught in the Swift Creeks Holes.

ISLAND PARK

Charter boat **Capt Tom** fished the Oceanside Mermaids an all new gals fishing club. Their first trip was Sunday and they had a mess of shorties and a decent balance of keeper fluke fishing in Reynold's Channel. The boat then visited the Warrior Buoy off Reis Park where two 4 lb. fluke were pulled up by Dianie Hurtzig and Betty Metzer. The score for the day was 3 dozen keepers out of roughly 100 fish caught on sandeels, spearing and squid.

Capt Clem of the **Commodore** reports Tuesday and Wednesday saw good fluking off Reis Park with 9 yr. old Bob Smith of Middle Village hoisting a 5 lb. fluke to grab the $52 pool. He had an additional 5 keepers while his dad had 12 keepers on Tuesday. Things were picky for fluke Thursday through Sunday with the moon tide and a lot of grass. Catches still averaged 6 to 10 keepers a man. Clem says the lull is temporary and that there are still loads of fish around.

Beckmann's Tackle in Lynbrook reports good weakfish catches being made at the Tin Can Grounds by anglers jigging tiger tails with blues and bonito mixed in. Charlie says if you don't know where the Tin Can Grounds are just look for the Island of Boats. Fluking fell off in size and quantity as it does every year at this time but Charlie advises that you try west of the Rockaways off the beach in 15' depths for a 90 percent keeper ratio. Snappers increasing in size and number as are blueclaws. A few night bass were weighed in caught on



Bernie Haag, of Long Beach Sports Marina, joined the "Golden Fifty Club" with this 50 lb. 10 oz. striper taken on a live bunker.

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LONG BEACH

The **Long Beach Sports Marina** reports that Skuli Matthewson and Otto Williams had 8 makos on Thursday, boated 3 weighing 81, 80, and 41 lbs., 25 miles SE of Jone's Inlet on a 125 degree heading. Ken Krat in the same area boated a 75 lb. mako. Plenty of fluke with a 25 percent keeper ratio in local waters. Don and Frank Durando had a good catch Saturday off Reis Park on spearing. Jerry and Lee Resnick and grandpa Sam hoisted 10 keepers out of 40 fish caught, keepers from 2 to 5 lbs. taken in the main channels on killies opposite People's Church. On Sunday Joe and John Driver had 22 keeper fluke fishing off their private dock in Long Beach on spearing. Snappers are starting and small blueclaw crabs are a good item in the back creeks on rings and traps.

ATLANTIC BEACH

Al at **Reynold's Reef Fishing Station** reports fluking spotty in Reynold's Channel with offshore taking the spotlight this week. Rich Diamond on Jordan Levin's boat Jubilee scored with a 64 lb. 8 oz. yellowfin tuna at the HA Saturday on a Green Machine. On Sunday Larry Kolbinskie of Far Rockaway and Al Transit, Steve Frech and Bud Rankin fishing on a 20' outboard west of the HA caught a 270 lb. mako. The Four Queens fished the canyon and took yellowfin tuna and albies. The Mariage had 8 albies and 2 yellowfin tuna up to 82 lbs. LIF Associate Editor Al Ristori was in on that catch, all on Green Machines.

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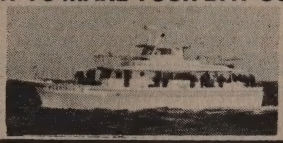

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SHEEPSHEAD BAY

Capt Butch on the **Zephyr** reports catching larger fluke in the early part of the day, finding a wind against tide situation causing poor drifts and poor fishing in the afternoons. On Saturday there was a total of 50 fluke on the boat that weighed in between 5 and 9 lbs. Thursday saw Brooklyn angler Bill Thompson snatch the pool with a 9 lb. fluke. Friday's pool went to Brooklyn angler Artie Byrnes with an 8½ lb. fluke. Butch is out after the larger fish which is quite evident from these catches. He's working the Jersey coast on sandeels, spearing and smelts and he says it looks like a start of a new run of bigger fish off Sea Bright, the Highlands and Monmouth Beach.

The **Flamingo III** reports the very good catch of blues and a scattering of 6 weaks on Sunday's trip all on diamond jigs. Saturday's bluefishing was only fair but this time 30 weakfish. Best action has been at the channels and between Rockaway and Sandy Hook. The fish are biting at stages of the tide and they are hitting in flurries. This is all jig fishing days and it's bait and chum at night. Fish are mainly 2 to 5 pounders but there has been an increasing number of larger fish from 6 to 10 lbs. The weakfish which are spooky are running 5 to 8 lbs.

Sal at **Stella Maris Tackle** tells of plenty of weakfish at the Tin Can Grounds and in the channel running 5 to 6 lbs. by jiggers and also worm fishermen. Fish are also hitting various other tidbits and blues are mixed in. Party boats are also getting blues on the small size, while the **Pilot II** continues to bring back catches of blacks and sea bass. Snappers starting on small spearing from all the piers and in the bays. A few stripers at the Tin Can, the channels and the

Ed Schwerdtfeger, center, with the 8½ blackfish he landed recently aboard the charter boat "Blue Albatross" in Peconic Bay.

VZ Bridge areas on diamonds and small spoons. Fluke being picked outside the Can off the jetties, the Coney Island Flats on squid, killies and sandeels.

STATEN ISLAND

Santo's Sport Shop tells of sand porgies from South Beach through Tottenville on clam and squid bait. Fluke at South Beach and Great Kills Harbor and off the storm sewers with lots of midgets mixed in on sandeels, squid and killies with a showing of some blowfish. Weakfish hitting worms and live bunker and bunker chunks at the mouths of the harbors and also from boats.

North Shore Report

by Martin Garrell

NEW ROCHELLE

Plenty of striped bass were reported by John Palmieri of **John's Gun & Tackle**. Fish in the 40s and 50s were taken on chunk bait while schoolies were taken on sand worms. Blues of all sizes were east of New Rochelle, and umbrella trollers off Captain's Island were having a measure of success. By drifting with sand worms off Bayville, anglers could still do well on 1/2 to 3/4 lb. flounder.

CITY ISLAND

Greg Warner at **City Island Bait & Tackle** hasn't seen as many bass on the full moon for a long time. This "spectacular" fishing involved bunker chunking in Orchard Beach Lagoon and around Hart's Island. Most of the fish were 7-16 lbs. Blues are popping up sporadically and porgies are available off Sands Point.

Joe Ferara enjoyed terrific fishing on the **Ebb Tide** on Sunday off Smithtown. Ava jigs were pulling weaks over 8 lbs. plus assorted sizes of blues, 2-3 adn 6-10 lbs. The open boat has been doing a lot of traveling to find fish from City Island out to Port Jeff or even Shoreham, and Ferara expects to begin his overnight ips to Mattituck next Sunday night.

GLEN COVE

The **Lady Lil** reports good bluefishing being had from Eaton's Neck to Smithtown Bay, fish 2 to 8 lbs. with 4 to 12 lb. weakfish mixed in. The boat is now bluefishing 8 a.m. daily and 6 p.m. daily and weakfishing Friday and Saturday nights.

According to Dave Watt at the **Glen Cove Sport Shop,** blues and weaks are available off Matinecock and Peacock Points along with loads of porgies. Snappers are still on the smal side. Tin works well on the blues while jelly worms are still scoring on the weaks. Some fluke are appearing off Matinecock as well.

HUNTINGTON

George Valentine at the **Four Winds Bait & Tackle** reported "outrageous" weakfish action between buoy 13 and the Obstruction Buoy as well as off Diamond Point. Although most of the action takes place during mornings and evenings, there is also an occasional daytime pick. A small tube of orange, white, green, or red some 2½' above the diamond jigs seems to work nicely on a slow, bottom-hugging retrieve. Fish in the 8-11 lb. class are in 20-40 ft of water. Largest weak of the week weighed 12 lbs. 9 oz. Umbrella trollers are picking up blues, more blues than weaks, according to George.

Ronnie Ferraro at **Ronnie's Bait & Tackle** suggested using jelly worms in blue, white, or red above the 2-3 oz. jigs. He said that most of the action came in the evening on weaks, but that blues exploded on the surface around 7AM each morning between Lilco and Mackamah. Bluefish sizes

This 12½ lb. blackfish was weighed in at Jack's Bait and Tackle by Ian Lindsay.

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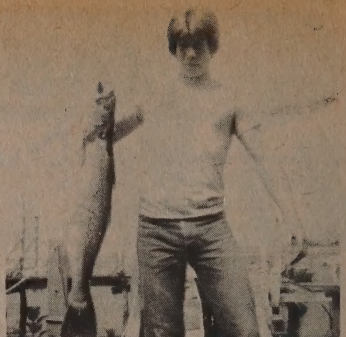

This 11 lb. weakfish took a Danny plug fished at Eaton's Neck by David McMullen. It was weighed at O.K. Bait and Tackle.

ran all the way from 1½ to 12 lbs. Fluke at Eaton's were running larger but were less numerous than those in the Crab Meadow area. Best fluke of the week weighed 4½ lbs.

NORTHPORT

The prime time for weaks around the Obstruction Buoy, says Tom Bowman at **Bowman's**, is around 6-9 in the evenings and it's always best during the week. Ava twists and Tri-Fin Tigers in 4 oz. sizes pull the weaks out of the deep water and there are blues between 6 and 10 lbs. all over the area. Single tubes and umbrellas work well for trollers. Fluke in the 4-5 lb. group are showing up in the Eaton's Rips, and porgies are everywhere. Snappers are available, too.

KINGS PARK

Bob Koliner of the **O.K. Bait & Tackle** spoke of "red-hot" action on weaks and blues during the last couple of days. Weaks were still taken on drifted worms, and the best fish last week taken by Paul Bruno in a catch of 22 tipped the scales at 12 lbs. 10 oz. Blues are generally in 3-4 lb. sizes and porgies tend to be small. Dan Wahl and Bee and Margaret Pakus showed up with a half bucket of small fluke from the river.

PORT JEFFERSON

Candy Caraftis at the **Caraftis Fishing Station** mentioned porgies in ¾ to 1 lb. sizes at Oldfield Point with lots of fluke off White Beach. Flatties were half keepers, half throwbacks with average keepers running about 3 lbs. Jelly and sand worms were pulling weaks as large as 8 lbs. in the evenings off buoy 11, and blues in the 3-5 lb. range were responding to diamonds all day long.

The **Aqua-Gem** reported good fishing on blues from 2 to 6 lbs. and weaks from 4-13 lbs. over the weekend off Mount Misery Shoal.

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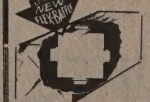

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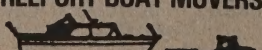

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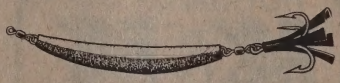

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Weekend jigging produced pretty well for the open boat.

MOUNT SINAI

Lloyd Ortiz at **Ralph's Fishing Station** told us that the weakfish and bluefish were virtually "all over". Tri-Fins with spoons and plastic tails were producing catches up to 27 fish er boat, and drifting was better than trolling. Biggest weak last week weighed 11 lbs. 6 oz.

North Fork Report

by Martin Garrell

AQUEBOGUE

Ed Kopack at **Warren's Tackle Center** told us that umbrella trollers were pulling small schoolie blues off the Northville Pipe and that there were a few weaks mixed with the blues off Mattituck Inlet. The weaks are 4-6 lbs. Plenty of short fluke are still available off Mattituck Inlet, but Horton's is producing somewhat larger fish. One catch of summer weaks from the Bay tallied 8 fish.

MATTITUCK

The **Mattituck Inlet Fishing Station** reported some nice porgies in catches off Cooper's Rock. Many of the scup seem to be moving into shallow water now. Small 1-3 lb. blues off the Beachcomber and Duck Pond Point were mixed with a few nice weakfish to 6 lbs.

NEW SUFFOLK

Phil Loria at **Captain Marty's** reported "an awful lot of porgies" in Rose's Grove with a few weaks in the Nassau Point zone. Drifting with squid off the Shark Hole in the early morning was a good idea, and the North Race could produce just as well for those who worked under the birds at dawn. Blues in 1½ to 2 lb. sizes were mixed with the weaks in the North Race. Catches of summer weaks could run as high as 12-13 per boat, and sizes ran to 4 lbs.

Newt Robbins at **Captain Jim's** saw porgies in the usual spots off Rose's and the Middle Grounds with some scup to 2 lbs. Some weaks were showing up west of Robin's Island with most of these summer run fish around 2 lbs. Best weakfish catch on Sunday afternoon totaled 6.

SOUTHOLD

From Ace Cottral at the **Port of Egypt** came the news that fluke sizes were improving dramatically near the

This 30 lb. class striper took a TriFin Teardrop Jig at buoy 11B off Eaton's Neck. The angler was Ron West, center. Photo courtesy of Bowman's Sporting Goods.

Orient Station. Keeper catches of 17 and 9 fish respectively were recorded off the Station and off Truman's Shoal. The latter catch included a 4¼ lb. fish, and all the productive fishing there occurred around the turn of the tide. One Marina boat in Petty's Bight showed up with 16 summer flounder to 6½ lbs. Inside the Orient Shoal Buoy, weaks and blues made a weekend showing for jiggers. Cottral says there are porgies all over the bay, but the best catch of the week was made by the Cardoza brothers with several hundred respectable fish off South Ferry.

Anna Rainis said that the **Blue Albatross** was using all kinds of tricks to haul fluke off Gardiners. Catches ran as high as 100 fish on Thursday with keeper numbers considerably improved. Best fish of the week was a 13 lb. weakfish.

GREENPORT

Art White at the **AP White Bait Shop** saw some big weaks to 8 lbs. taken between Horton's and Truman's on the charter boats with diamond jigs. Fluke off the Ruins were improving in size, and the bass in the Sluiceway were still a mystery. Porgy sizes on the open boats, **Brand X** and **Peconic Star**, were up somewhat off Plum Island and off Gardiner's.

Capt Roddy DeLisle of the **Prowler II** reports that Thursday through Sunday his charters murdered blues to 12 lbs. and weaks to 12 lbs. fishing the Sound on diamond jigs. He's been getting super readings and heavy catches on all trips. A slow slow retrieve is the ticket and Roddy says that the charter boat **Nancy Ann** is scoring equally well.

South Fork Report

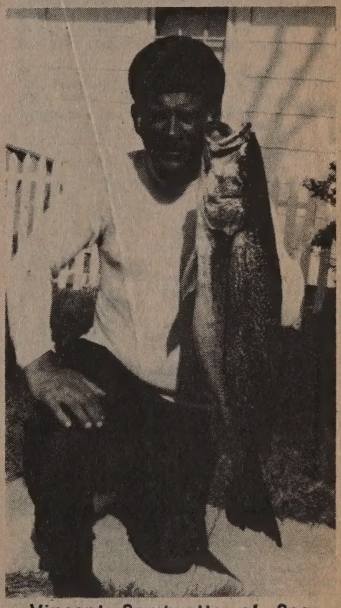
by Stu Miller

SHINNECOCK

The fishing team from RELIABLE GAFF, Jerry Schnurr and Ray Hendrickson last Thursday fishing in Ray's 23' boat in 5' seas, hooked and landed a 221 lb. mako which took 55 minutes to get to the boat. The fish have towed them for 7 miles. The fish was finally brought into the boat and weighed in at Jackson's Marina. The catch was made 40 mile south of Shinnecock Inlet.

Speck's Bait & Tackle reports Shinnecock fluking has been just fair this week but a lot of small blues have been caught on tin and bait at Heady Creek and in Shinnecock Inlet. Small but fat flounders throughout Shinnecock Bay on worms. Blues and weaks have been taken outside Sebonac Inlet on Tri-Fins, Tins and poppers. Small porgies being found all around the bay on sand worms from Smith Cove to Cedar Point and also at Crow's Shoals. Peconic continues to have scattered blues and weaks along with small porgies. Snapper population is growing, hitting small shiners, spearing and small tins. A few schoolie bass have been taken in the Inlet area on trolled umbrellas.

The **Capt Clark II** called to say that the porgy fishing in Peconic Bay was fair to good this past week with Wednesday an exceptionally good day. Steve Karas of Bayside was high hook with 32 porgies and 4 kingfish. The fish ranged from ¾ to 1 lb. with sandworms and clams as best bait. Capt Clark made an offshore trip last Saturday to fish ocean wrecks. Results were fair to good withlarge sea bass being caught along with ling, sea flounder and some blackfish. Sgt. and Peda of Hampton Bays was high



Vincent Sombrotto of Sag Harbor displays the 12 lb. 2 oz. tiderunner he took at buoy 18 in Peconic Bay with a jelly worm and squid combo.

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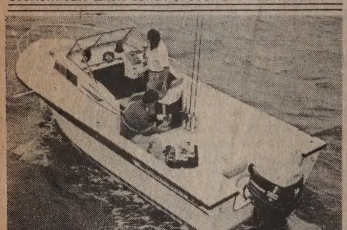

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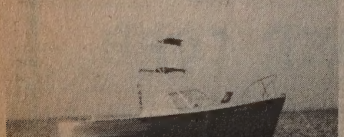

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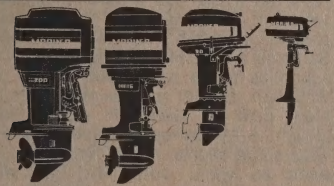

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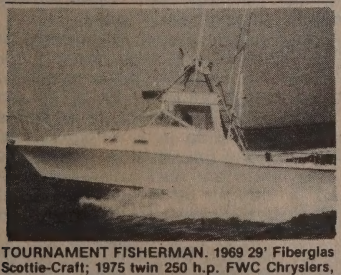

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12' through 21' aluminum skiffs & center consoles in stock for demonstration & immediate delivery. We will not be undersold. Auth. Evinrude sales & service. Financing arranged. Dave Bofill Marine, 1810 North Sea Rd., Southampton, NY. 516-283-6736.

BOATING EQPT.

Custom Marine Woodwork: specializing in one of a kind pieces. No job too small. Dress up your boat. Teak step pads made to order. After 6PM. 516-623-1639.

Garcia 9500 depth finder, chart recorder. Excellent condition. Extra roll of paper, transducer included. $160. Eves. 516-667-6812.

CHART PAPER in stock for most depth recorders; also crystals to add channels to your VHF radio while you wait. Where else but at HEINE MARINE ELECTRONICS, 250 Montauk Hwy., Islip. 516-581-0194.

Elec. powered 30" diam. x 30" wide gill net reel. Suitable for small boat. $250. 516-MA 3-6656 after 6PM.

COMPASSES—COMPASSES—COMPASSES Remember, if it has anything to do with compasses at all, give me a call! Huge inventory of Ritchie Compasses. Expert installation & adjustment. Authorized repair service. I also carry a complete line of binoculars, sextants, clocks, barometers. JENS JACOBS NAUTICAL SERVICE, 516-757-7169.

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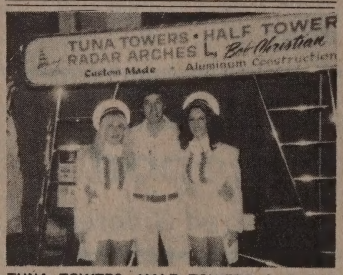
BOAT TRAILERS FOR RENT: Single & Tandem axle. Daily, weekly, monthly rates. Temporary & Permanent hitches for sale or rent. BARN TRAILER SERVICE, 57-06 Broadway, Woodside, NY 212-426-7039.

Wholesale Marine Fasteners, Stainless, silicon bronze. Full line. Shop parts. O-Rings. Free catalog. ARONMARINE, 61 Mastic Beach, New York 11951; 516-281-3366.



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BOAT TRAILER REPAIRS: Complete with all new galvanized parts & a complete line of top quality marine supplies at discount prices. FAZIO MFG. INC., 87 Arlington Ave., St. James, N.Y. 11780; 516-265-3036.

TRAILER HITCHES. The most complete Draw-Tite line of Class I & II hitches in stock in Long Island. Sales, Installations & Service. TOM CASH WELDING, Lake Ronkonkoma. 516-JU 8-6143.

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2 New Silaflex 50 lb. class shark & trolling rods. Original cost $225 each. $300 Pair. 516-536-8195.

Free Catalog. Fine saltwater fishing tackle at low, low prices. Write to: WEST FALMOUTH TACKLE, Box 690E, West Falmouth, MA 02574.

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Catch more fish...with super designed saltwater rigs. Send for free catalog now!! HUDSON TACKLE, Dept. I, P.O. Box 437, Kearny, N.J. 07032.

B-P FISHING Tackle Manufacturer—Most often copied! Never equaled! The largest selection of rigs, jigs, tubes and leaders: over 200 items. No comparison by anyone. Dealers call: 201-688-6059 or write: 22 Portland Rd., Union, NJ 07083.

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SUMMER DOCKAGE—Now taking reservations: $16 per ft. 23' limit. Five minutes from Shinnecock Inlet. Also have a small selection of select brokerage boats for sale. SUNSHINE MARINE, 23 Rampasture Rd., Hampton Bays, N.Y. 11946. 516-728-1339.

FULLY LICENSED CAPTAIN. Available for charters, water deliveries, transfers, individual trips; boat handling instruction. 516-795-4498.

STORAGE BOX—4'x8'x11½". Sloped front; use on top of van or 4x4. Holds spare, fishing equip., bedding, etc. Can also be used for sleeping 2, opens like clam shell & has canvas w/zipper & screened window. Water-tight box made of pine & marine plywood w/aluminum braces & brass hinge. Can be installed on common roof rack. $400. 212-259-3118 or 516-725-3610.

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EMBLEMS—Direct from manufacturer. Swiss embroidered; custom made to your design. Send sample or sketch and quantity needed for free quotation. DAVID HAEMMERLE & Sons, Inc., Box 711, W. New York, NJ 07093.

Rent your own fishing boat: SeaRay 26'; Si-Tex Recorder, all gear, Northport Harbor. $200 Full day. Call Ken, 516-261-1732.

SUMMER DOCKAGE AVAILABLE: Authorized Dealer for Suzuki Outboard motors & McKee Craft boats. Discounted propellers. Kremer's Boatyard, Jackson Ave., Seaford. 516-221-8877.

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BAIT & TACKLE SHOP complete w/substantial inventory. All fixtures, displays, freezers, etc. Well-established business in center of Fort Lee; access to major highways. Fresh & salt water baits. Long record as proven money making business. Must sell for health reasons. Available immediately. Call 9-4, 201-461-4973 for info.

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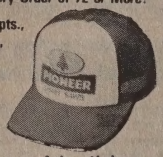
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hook winning pool with 5 lb. 2 oz. sea bass. The boat will be making another ocean trip this coming Saturday and each Saturday thereafter, weather permitting.

Charter boat **Blue Water Drifter** on Friday fished John Avena and party for 2 makos of 125 lbs. and 150 lbs. Saturday's trip for Ray Shaw had a mako of 165 lbs. Several brown shark were released.

SAG HARBOR

Capt Artie Lach of the **Wilhelric II** reports Tuesday's fluking was very good despite the stormy NW winds. Wednesday's fluking saw Gardiner's Island come to life with most fares taking 6 to a dozen keepers a man. Warren Kuhle of Massapequa Park took the pool with an 8 lb. 2 oz. fluke on spearing and sandeel. Fluking remained excellent all week at Gardiner's. Porgy fishing has been very good and Artie says it is definitely PORGY TIME. He's brought the boat back in early everyday this week on the porgy trips with mainly mediums with a few humpbacks and a few small fish. Catches have been best at Crow Shoals and south of Plum Island, both tides catching on clam. Super porgies, says the skipper and he also notes that the Greenport charter boats have been having great weakfishing averaging 100 weakfish a trip plus an incidental catch of big blues on diamond jigs.

Surf Report

by Fred Golofaro

As the summer progresses, it's becoming more and more difficult to pick out the bright spots in the Long Island surf scene. Action is far from non-existent however, particularly if your appetite is whetted by small bluefish which seem to be scattered around in good numbers. There was a good run of bass in the City Island area which lasted for most of this past week. This fishing petered out, however, before the weekend was over. Here's the way things shaped up after our usual round of phone calls.

Lon Wanser of **Wanser's Bait & Tackle** in Seaford knew of some sporadic action with weakfish along the beach at Gilgo and over at Democrat Point. Sand worms fished after dark have been taking some of the fish, while during the daylight hours tins have been accounting for a few weaks along with plenty of small blues. Best of the bluefish action has been at Democrat and West End.

From **The Store** at Oak Beach, Hays told of weighing in a 33 lb. striper for "Clam Belly" Tony taken on a clam belly naturally, from the new bar at Cedar Beach. A couple of small bass, a few weakfish and lots of small blues roaming between the Sore Thumb and Democrat. Casters have been picking away at the weaks from the Sore Thumb, while boatmen working just out of casting range have been doing a job.

From **Augie's Bait & Tackle** in Babylon came a report of a 23 lb. 2 oz. striper taken from the Gilgo surf Friday night by Nor'West Fishing Club member Tom Hauser. Tom took his fish on a sand worm.

From **J&R Sport Center** in Oakdale, Dave told of lots of small blues at Democrat on tins and plugs. On Saturday, one caster totalled 49 blues ranging from 2-5 lbs. A few weaks in the 4-6 lb. range and a couple of small bass taken after dark off of the same sand bar on Rebels and RedFins.

Out on the East End, Johnny Kronuch of **Johnny's Bait and Tackle** reported a few fish around this past weekend. Fred Mysliwiec of Copiague checked in a 26 lb. bass taken up front Saturday night. He also had a pair of schoolies to go along with a trio of weakfish. Earlier in the week, was a slow pick of weakfish along Gin Beach. A few schoolie stripers mixed with some shorts in the Rocky Point area as well. John did get an encouraging report from a couple of local skin divers who told of seeing plenty of stripers settled in among the south side rocks.

Moving over to the North Shore, Greg at **City Island Bait and Tackle** provided the encouraging word of striper action which had been going on in the Orchard Beach lagoon. He labelled the fishing as almost blitz like, although the majority of fish taken were caught on bunker chunks fished on the bottom. While most averaged 8-10 lbs. some fish in the teens were taken. Two casters stopped by the shop late last week with 15 stripers topped off by a 16 l lber. Turtle Cove continues to produce a few schoolies with most of this action on small Rebel plugs.

Surf fishing around the middle of the North Shore was lacking for excitement despite some excellent boat fishing going on for blues and weaks. Ronnie Ferraro of **Ronnie's Bait and Tackle** in Huntington said that despite lots of guys trying, the only hint of any surf action has been of a couple of small blues at Caumsett. Overall, Ronnie labelled the surf picture as pretty poor.

To the east, Dick who runs **Dick's Sporting Goods** in Mt. Sinai reported that the Miller Place-Sound Beach shore had again come to life with blues averaging about 4 lbs. making runs along these beaches. Weaks averaging 7-8 lbs. and an occasional bass in the 20 lb. class are mixed in with the blues, although the weak and bass action is limited to evenings and nights. The hottest lure has been Tri-Fin spoon jigs in both 1 and 2 oz. sizes, according to Dick.

High Tide Tables

How to use tide tables:

To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion tables. Add or subtract the hours and minutes as indicated from that areas station above. Example: "Shinnecock Inlet...–0 50" is listed under "ON SANDY HOOK." –0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. This is the approximate time for the high tide in the area. For low tide, add 6½ hours to this figure.

DAY	SANDY HOOK		Breakwater Harbor		NEW YORK		NEW LONDON		WILLETS POINT		BRIDGE-PORT		NEWPORT		DATE
	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	
THUR.	12:50	1:25	1:30	2:10	1:25	2:10	2:25	3:05	4:00	4:35	4:15	4:45	12:55	1:30	7/23
FRI.	1:45	2:25	2:25	3:10	2:15	3:00	3:25	4:05	5:00	5:30	5:15	5:45	1:50	2:30	7/24
SAT.	2:45	3:25	3:30	4:15	3:15	4:00	4:30	5:05	6:05	6:35	6:15	6:45	2:50	3:30	7/25
SUN.	3:50	4:30	4:35	5:15	4:25	5:05	5:35	6:05	7:20	7:50	7:20	7:45	3:55	4:30	7/26
MON.	5:00	5:35	5:40	6:20	5:35	6:10	6:35	7:00	8:45	9:10	8:25	8:50	4:55	5:25	7/27
TUE.	6:05	6:30	6:45	7:15	6:40	7:10	7:40	7:55	10:00	10:15	9:25	9:45	5:55	6:20	7/28
WED.	7:05	7:25	7:40	8:10	7:40	8:00	8:30	8:50	11:00	11:15	10:25	10:40	6:50	7:15	7/29
THUR.	7:55	8:15	8:35	9:00	8:30	8:50	9:25	9:40	11:50	–	11:15	11:35	7:40	8:05	7/30

On SANDY HOOK

STATEN ISLAND	+0 27
ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS	–0 01
Red Bank, Navesink, R.I.	+0 48
Long Branch	–0 34
SHARK RIVER INLET	–0 18
Shark River Basin	+0 27
MANASQUAN INLET	–0 12
Seaside Park	–0 33
Mantoloking zbridge	+5 34
TOMS RIVER	+4 37
Waretown	+2 33
BARNEGAT LIGHT	–0 20
Manahawkin Bridge	+2 33
Beach Haven	+1 47
LITTLE EGG INLET	–0 01
Seven Islands	+0 12
Graveling Point	+1 05
Mullica River	+1 55
Grassy Bay	+1 08
ABSECON INLET	+0 14
Atlantic City Pier	–0 26
Gt. Egg Harbor Inlet	+0 12
GREAT EGG HARBOR	+0 46
CORSON INLET	+0 09
TOWNESEND INLET	+0 06
HEREFORD INLET	+0 02
Grassy Sound Bridge	+0 45
Cape May Harbor	–0 02
Rehoboth Beach	–0 07
INDIAN RIVER INLET	+0 14
SHINNECOCK INLET	–0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+1 25
East Quoque	+2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+1 18
Indian Reservation	+3 05
MORICHES INLET	–0 56
Smith's Point	+3 28
Harts Cove	+1 30
Pontunck Point	+3 35
Mastic Beach	+3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	–0 38
Democrat Point	–0 38
Coast Guard Station	–0 19
Fire Island Light	+0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville	+3 39
Heckscher State Pk.	+3 20
Bay Shore	+2 23
Babylon	+2 12
Amityville	+2 21
JONES INLET	–0 19
Zachs Bay	+1 25
Seaford Harbor	+2 05
Freeport Creek	+0 34
E. ROCKAWAY INLET	–0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	–0 00
Beach Ch. Bridge	+0 38
JFK Airport	+0 26

On BRIDGEPORT

Lloyd Point	+0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+0 08
Bayville Bridge	+0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+0 03
Northport Bay	+0 03
Norwalk Islands	+0 10
Smithtown Bay	–0 03
Cranes Neck Point	+0 05
Port Jefferson Harbor	+0 03
New Haven Harbor	+0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	–0 08
Herod Point	–0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+0 19
Horton Point	–0 20
Truman Beach	–0 42
Falkner Island	–0 13
Sachem Head	–0 10
Branford Harbor	–0 07
New Haven Harbor	–0 08
Milford Harbor	–0 07
Stratford	+0 27
Shelton	+1 36
Black Rock Harbor	–0 03
Saugatuck River	–0 01
South Norwalk	+0 10
Greens Ledge	–0 01
Stamford	+0 04
Cos Cob Harbor	+0 06
Greenwich	+0 02

On NEW LONDON

Orient Point	+0 27
Little Gull Is. (Race)	+0 12
Greenport	+1 04
Southold	+1 43
New Suffolk	+2 26
South Jamesport	+2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+2 33
Noyack Bay	+2 05
Sag Harbor	+0 59
Gardiners Bay	+0 21
Promised Land	–0 14
Montauk Inlet	–0 25
Montauk Point	–1 13
Niantic	+1 20
Stonington	–0 33
Noank, Mystic River	–0 23
THAMES RIVER	
Smith Cove	–0 01
Norwich	+0 09
CONNECTICUT RIVER	
Saybrook jetty	+1 10
Lyme	+1 24
Essex	+1 38
East Haddam	+2 41
Higganum Creek	+2 54

On WILLETS PT.

Little Neck Bay	–0 10
Execution Light	–0 06
Manhasset Bay	–0 01
Hempstead Harbor	–0 11
City Island	–0 03
Rye Beach	–0 28
Port Chester	–0 09
Mamaroneck	–0 08
New Rocheele	–0 24
Davids Island	–0 02

On B'WATER HB.

CAPE MAY POINT	–0 10
Miami Beach	+1 17
East Point	+0 53
Egg Island Point	+0 33
Cape Henlopen	–0 05
ROOSEVELT INLET	+0 09
Mispillion River Ent.	+0 33
St. Jones River Ent.	+0 57

On NEW YORK

Jersey City	+0 07
Geo. Washington Br.	+0 46
Spuyten Duyvil	+0 58
Ossining	+1 53
Peekskill	+2 24
West Point	+3 16
Newburg	+3 42

On NEWPORT

Sakonnet	–0 10
Tiverton	+0 21
Beavertail Point	–0 02
Prudence Is., Sandy Pt.	+0 10
Bristol	+0 10
Warren	+0 21
Nayett Point	+0 12
Pawtucket	+0 21
East Greenwich	+0 16
Wickford	+0 12
Narragansett Pier	–0 08
Point Judith Harbor	–0 07
BLOCK ISLAND	
Great Salt Pond	+0 05
Old Harbor	–0 14
Watch Hill Point	+0 44

Sunrise/Sunset

7/24	5:45	8:27
7/25	5:46	8:26
7/26	5:47	8:25
7/27	5:48	8:24
7/28	5:49	8:23
7/29	5:50	8:22
7/30	5:51	8:21

Moonrise/Moonset

7/24	12:21AM	1:37PM
7/25	12:56AM	2:48PM
7/26	1:33AM	3:58PM
7/27	2:17AM	5:08PM
7/28	3:07AM	6:13PM
7/29	4:03AM	7:11PM
7/30	5:06AM	8:03PM

Moon Phases

NEW	1st Qtr	FULL	2nd Qtr.
7/1	7/9	7/17	7/24

The Original Knight

SOLUNAR TABLES

When To Fish Or Hunt

The schedule of solunar periods for this week as printed below have been taken from the original ***KNIGHT SOLUNAR TABLES.*** Plan your day so that you will be fishing good areas during these times when the fish should be most active. The tables are not a guarantee you will catch fish, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for 1½ to 2 hours thereafter, and are in the bold type face. The minor periods are shorter in duration and lighter type face.

	AM		PM	
	Minor	Major	Minor	Major
Thurs.	11:05	4:55	11:35	5:20
Fri.	11:55	5:50	—	6:15
Sat.	12:30	6:35	12:45	7:05
Sun.	1:20	7:25	1:35	7:55
Mon.	2:10	8:20	2:30	8:45
Tues.	3:00	9:15	3:25	9:45
Wed.	4:00	10:10	4:20	10:40
Thurs.	4:55	11:05	5:15	11:30

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Casting, Trolling and Jigging Reels.

"The fish that runs away from this reel won't fit in the boat!"

That's a mighty bold statement but Shimano's rugged gold reels have all the muscle to back it up. These powerful performers are built to handle anything that's catchable on light tackle big game reels. Tritons have proven themselves with over twenty different species in casting, jigging, trolling and live bait fishing situations.

The finest components.

One look inside the handsome gold sideplates makes it easy to understand why Triton is a legitimate contender in the salt water market. Precise bronze and stainless steel gears are amazingly strong. One piece machined aluminum spool rides on stainless steel ball bearings to assure maximum strength and smooth performance. The drag system on the Triton offers more braking area than any other reel in its class. Handles are big, designed for a sure, powerful retrieve.

One piece construction.

Unique one piece Col-for® (cold forged) aluminum frame resists twisting and turning. One piece, machined aluminum spool has a stainless steel shaft for exceptional strength and maximum precision. So precise that 10 lb. line can't get caught between the spool and housing. It's virtually unaffected by mono compaction and fish fighting stress.

Controlled casting is built in.

Surf and boat casters and live bait fishermen will appreciate Triton's centrifugal brake weight system and push button spool release. These special features make Triton the only light tackle big game reel that's specifically designed for controlled casting too!

Look for the Triton Mark I and wide spool Mark II at your tackle dealer's or read all about them in Shimano's colorful 1981 Fishing Tackle Catalog, yours for $1.00 by writing: **Shimano American Corp., 205 Jefferson Rd., Parsippany, NJ 07054.**

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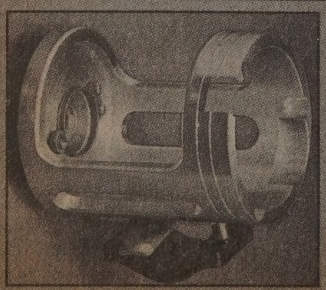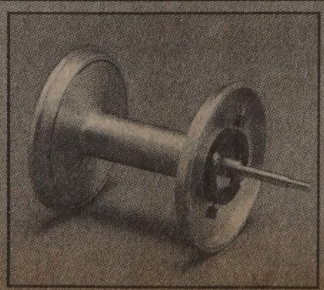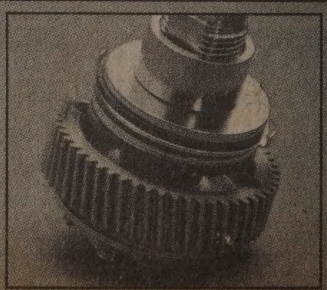
Tomorrow's Tackle Today